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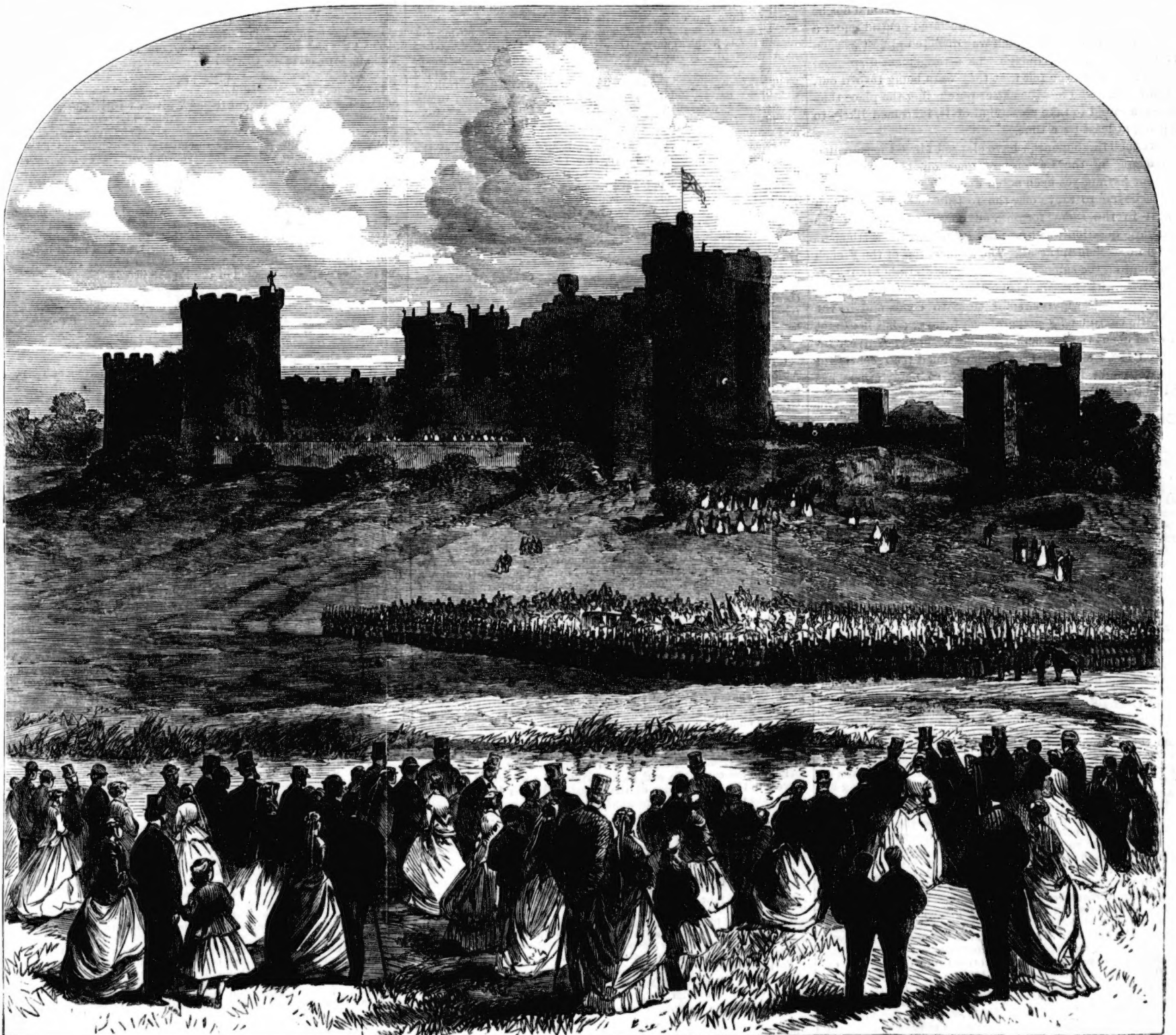
## FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

IN spite of the settlement formally arrived at by the Plenipotentiaries assembled at the conference held on the Luxemburg question, the relations between France and Prussia seem still to be far from satisfactory. The French and Prussian newspapers are openly at war, and as sharp things against France have appeared in the Government journals of Berlin as in any of the unofficial organs. Governments have often fallen out when the nations they ruled were animated by no sort of hostile feeling; but in the case of France and Prussia, it would seem that the bad blood chiefly exists between the nations, and that the Governments are really doing their best to soothe the irritated passions of their subjects. Occasionally the *Moniteur* publishes a little anti-Prussian paragraph which is very quickly responded to by the Prussian *Cross Gazette*; but the majority of the warlike articles have naturally appeared in newspapers

belonging to private persons. The Government papers of France and Prussia have, for the most part, confined themselves to flatly contradicting one another on the subject of certain despatches alleged to have been addressed by the Cabinet of Paris to that of Berlin in reference to the retrocession of a portion of Schleswig to Denmark, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty of Prague. The French official papers, as if foreseeing that the advice of their Government on the subject was not likely to be taken, have denied that any despatch in regard to Schleswig has been communicated on the part of France to the Government of Prussia. The Prussian official journals have contradicted this denial; and the truth turns out to be that, though what is technically called a "despatch" was not "communicated" in a formal manner, yet that a document of less importance entitled a "note" was shown by the French Ambassador to the Prussian Minister of Foreign Affairs, and read to him,

though the act of communication was not completed by leaving him a copy!

We learn from the assertions, contradictions, and, ultimately, the revelations that have been made in regard to this Schleswig question, which may before long prove as formidable, though much less intricate, than its predecessor, the Schleswig-Holstein question, that there is at least one point on which the two rival Governments, now contending for the leadership of the Continent, are seriously at difference. France desires Prussia to fulfil the conditions of the Treaty of Prague, and Prussia replies that it is not the affair of France whether she fulfils them or not. To this the rejoinder of France is said to be that the clause relating to the cession of a portion of Schleswig, stipulated for by Austria, was so stipulated at the recommendation of France, and that France feels bound to see that her recommendations are carried out. In the mean time, while all the



PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE NORTHUMBERLAND MILITIA BY LADY PERCY AT ALNWICK CASTLE.



newspapers of Prussia, and, indeed of the whole of Northern Germany, re-echo with one note, and declare that, whatever happens, France shall not be allowed to interfere in German affairs, we hear of the arrival in Denmark of a band of French journalists, who are entertained at a grand official banquet, given under the presidency of the Minister, M. Hall, who drink to the alliance of Denmark with France, and who applaud with enthusiasm the rather unmeaning assertion that "Denmark will not perish, because she believes in the justice of her cause." The question of the continued existence, or of the speedy destruction, does not, of course, depend at all upon "the justice of her cause." It depends on the strength of her army and navy, on the magnitude of her internal resources, and, above all, on the importance of the alliances that she may be able to contract. It is significant, all the same, that, after making an official diplomatic representation at Berlin against Prussia, France should now make an unofficial demonstration, but of a very popular character, at Copenhagen in favour of Denmark. Under ordinary circumstances, the arrival of a certain number of French newspaper correspondents in the Danish capital would be a thing of no general interest whatever. But what is remarkable about this journalistic expedition just now is that its progress has been communicated to the world from time to time by telegraph, as though—at Copenhagen, at least—great weight were attached to it.

If this Schleswig question has yet to be decided, we have been in the habit of congratulating ourselves for the last three months that, at all events, the once very menacing Luxemburg question has been finally disposed of. Unfortunately, this turns out not to be the case. The Luxemburg question has been settled in the way the Hibernian's debts were settled, when he gave a promissory note in lieu of money, and thanked Heaven that there was an end to that affair. Prussia, it will be remembered, held Luxemburg as a member of the German Confederation, which Confederation had ceased to exist. She, moreover, claimed to hold it in the general interest of Germany; but, though the Germans seemed all inclined to allow the justice of this claim, it was not admitted by the Plenipotentiaries in conference assembled, and the Prussians, after much debating and much solid opposition, agreed to go out of Luxemburg, but only on consideration that the French should not be allowed to come in. The place was declared neutral under a guarantee, the validity of which was disputed almost as soon as it was given; and, though this arrangement displeased both the Prussians, who felt that they were being turned out, and the French, who felt that after purchasing the place they were not allowed to take possession of it, it seemed likely to hold good, at least for a time.

But, though three months have elapsed since the so-called "settlement" of the Luxemburg question, that pretended settlement has not yet been acted upon. The Prussian troops have not begun to move out, the fortifications of the town are still in the same formidable condition as when the Luxemburg question was first raised; in fact, the settlement has been no settlement at all. The silence, too, of the French Government on the subject has something alarming in it. It may wrangle with Prussia about the cession of the Danish districts in Schleswig for some time to come, and in the mean while continue its preparations for war; but it cannot say a word about the Luxemburg affair without positively insisting on the execution of a treaty signed too recently for anyone to maintain that that one, like so many others, has ceased to be binding.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND LIGHT INFANTRY MILITIA.

##### PRESENTATION OF COLOURS.

On the 6th inst. the Northumberland Light Infantry Militia had the honour of receiving from Countess Percy (the lady of Earl Percy, Lieutenant-Colonel of the regiment) a new set of colours. The event is depicted in our Engraving, and we copy from a local journal the subjoined history of the corps and description of the ceremony of presenting the new colours:—

"The presentation of colours to the militia is another proof of the active interest evinced by the members of the Percy family for the regiment. Year after year something has been done by this noble family to add to the pleasures of the members of the regiment during the month they are annually assembled at Alnwick for drill; and for the care taken to ensure their comfort the men are truly grateful, showing their gratitude in the only way they can—by attending closely to their drill and conducting themselves in an orderly and decent manner. This year a new provision has been introduced for the benefit of the men—namely, the establishment of reading and tea rooms in the Corn Exchange, where the men may spend their evenings. Newspapers are supplied to the rooms from the castle and by residents in the town, and anyone can have a cup of tea or coffee on paying a penny for a bun—the tea, coffee, &c., being supplied at the expense of Countess Percy. And that this new source of pleasure and comfort is appreciated is proved by the fact that, evening after evening, from one to two hundred of the soldiers attend.

"More than a century has elapsed since the Northumberland Militia was first raised. It was at a most important part of our history—during the Seven Years' War, when the vigorous arm of the elder Pitt was directing the power of England and dealing his blows against France—not only in Europe, but in India and America also. The invincible Clive on the field of Plassey had made us masters of Bengal, and on the heights of Quebec the heroic Wolfe had added one of the noblest territories to the Crown of England. Hawke, too, amidst rocks, and storm, and darkness had destroyed the French fleet off Brest; and George III. had become King. On Oct. 5, 1759, all the officers who had been appointed to command in the regiment dined at Alnwick Castle with the Earl and Countess of Northumberland. The Countess was Lady Elizabeth Percy. She had married Sir Hugh Smithson, who, upon the death of her father, the Duke of Somerset, in 1750, succeeded as Earl of Northumberland. On Feb. 25, 1760, the officers again met at Alnwick; and the men, having marched from different parts of the county and from Newcastle, were embodied and formed into companies. On March 10 the regiment, consisting of 1400 men, was reviewed by General Whitmore, in a field near the Shields-road, about three miles from Newcastle; and, although a very young corps, it gave great satisfaction to the General. In 1778, during the American War, a year after Burgoyne laid down his arms at Saratoga, and the year when France acknowledged the independence of the States and sent troops to their support, the regiment was again embodied.

About two o'clock on the morning of May 1, Lord Algernon Percy, the present Duke's father, received an express from the Secretary-at-War ordering the Northumberland Militia to march to Newcastle. Early that same morning the men left Alnwick, and arrived at Newcastle and Tynemouth Barracks the next day, where they lay till the 14th of the month, when they got the route for Beverley; thence, on April 20, 1780, they marched for Hull; and on May 19 they left that place en route for London, which they reached on June 8, and were quartered at Lincoln's Inn. This was at the time of the Gordon Riots. Although a portion of the regiment had marched forty miles, parties were at once sent to the different scenes of riot and destruction, and successfully engaged and dispersed the rioters. For their gallantry and good conduct the thanks of the citizens of London were tendered to them, with a purse of 50 gs. They received the thanks of the grand jury of Northumberland for their services, and Lord and Lady Percy each presented them with 20 gs. It was on marching down one of the streets of London at this time that their broad shoulders, vigorous frames, and military bearing struck the attention of some gentlemen; and, not knowing the facings of the regiment, one of them went up to a sergeant and inquired the name of the regiment. The blunt soldier, with the unadulterated *biert* of his native county, so unintelligible to southern ears, spouted out 'Northumberland Militia,' in such a manner as to astonish the admiring inquirer, who, after two or three useless efforts to interpret the barbarous sounds, returned to his friends with the satisfactory information that it was 'a foreign regiment!' In 1783, when the American War ended by our acknowledging the independence of the States, the corps broke up its camp at Chatham, marched home, and was disembodied. When the French Revolution broke out, the regiment mustered at Alnwick, in December, 1792, and in the following year marched to Scarborough and Beverley. From that time to the Peace of Amiens, in 1802, it was quartered at several places in the north of England, and in the midland and eastern counties. It was disembodied in the April of that year, after having been nine years and five months in actual service. But the Peace of Amiens was a hollow truce, and in the next year war was again proclaimed, and the Northumberland was, of course, embodied once more; and, on Emmett's rebellion breaking out in Ireland, the men volunteered their services in that country, and received his Majesty's thanks. In 1804, Lord Lovaine, now Duke of Northumberland, became Colonel, and under his command—which lasted half a century—the corps became one of the most famous militia regiments in the service. When Napoleon was threatening invasion, and the northern shores of France were bristling with hostile preparations, the gallant Northumbrians were marched to the opposite shores of the Channel. The regiment was encamped at Hastings and Brighton in 1807. In the next year it again volunteered for service in Ireland, and again received the thanks of the King. In 1811, when that island was once more giving much anxiety to the Government, its services were a third time offered, and accepted by the Prince Regent; and, as a mark of distinction for its loyal and gallant conduct, it was made light infantry. During its stay in Ireland it did duty in Cork, Fermoy, Kilkenny, Waterford, &c. On the 6th of October, 1813, it embarked at the Cove of Cork for Bristol, and on the 25th got the route for Haddington. On Nov. 15 and the following day it passed through Newcastle, the vanguard being headed by Lieutenant-Colonel Coulson. On its entrance into the town it was greeted with a salute of guns from the castle, the bells of St. Nicholas rang a merry welcome, and a hearty reception met it at every place during the march through the county. On June 24, 1814, it was disembodied at Alnwick, after having been eleven years and two months in active service. In the year 1799, when Bonaparte was making a rapid conquest of Egypt and the Duke of York commanded the fruitless expedition to Holland, the Northumberland gave 378 men to the Line; and, at different periods, from 1805 to 1814, no fewer than 1129 had volunteered into the regular Army and thirty into the Navy and marines.

"Since the French war it has been embodied for training at the following dates:—1820, July 10, for twenty-eight days; 1821, June 10, for twenty-one days; 1831, March 2, for twenty-eight days; and in 1852, Jan. 9, for permanent duty during the Crimean War. It left Alnwick for Tynemouth on Sept. 5, and for Carlisle on Dec. 20. It has met regularly ever since for annual training at Alnwick. At its raising, in 1760, the Earl of Northumberland commanded the regiment; and afterwards his second son, Lord Algernon Percy, the first Earl of Beverley, and father of the present Duke. His Grace was appointed to the colonelcy of the regiment in 1804, and retained it until 1852, when Lieutenant-Colonel William M. Bigge, who had served in the 70th Foot, assumed the command. On his resignation, in 1862, Lord Lovaine, formerly in the 1st (Grenadier) Guards, and now Earl Percy, became Lieutenant-Colonel—there being now no Colonels of militia regiments—and under his able and vigorous rule the Northumberland has immensely improved in discipline and character.

"The ceremony of presentation took place within the grounds of Alnwick Castle, and was witnessed by a numerous gathering of the gentry belonging to the county, and also by a large number of the inhabitants of Alnwick. Headed by their excellent band, the regiment marched to the castle, and were admitted at the barbacan, and thence proceeded down to the large flat ground at the side of the Aln, at the foot of the Castle Hill—a capital spot for any public ceremony, as thousands can stand on the hillside, and in the pasture on the north side of the river, and witness everything going on. At the bottom of the Castle Hill were drawn up four carriages, the first (an open carriage) containing Countess Percy and the Rev. Court Granville, who had on his surplice; and the second carriage, which was closed, contained his Grace the Duke of Northumberland and his sister, Lady Louisa Percy. The other carriages were occupied by ladies who had received invitations to be present. In full view of the occupants of the carriages, the regiment, acting under the orders of Earl Percy, were put through a variety of movements. Then came the ceremony of taking farewell of the old colours, two in number. The right company having been told off to act as an escort to Lieutenants Maughan and Wilkin, who bore the old colours, the band struck up the National Anthem. To a slow march, the colours were then carried down the line, the soldiers saluting; and, having gone from end to end, the interesting relics were carried to the rear, the band playing, most appropriately, 'Auld Lang Syne.' Now came the change 'from grave to gay,' thoughts of sadness and farewell giving place to those of joyfulness and welcome. The regiment having been drawn up so as to form three sides of a square, the new colours (two in number) were uncovered and placed in the centre; after which the impressive ceremony of consecration was performed by the Rev. Court Granville. Major Mitford and Major Grey, taking up the new colours, carried them to Countess Percy (who still remained in her carriage); and, having attached a wreath of beautiful flowers to the head of each of the colour-staffs, her Ladyship gave them into the hands of Lieutenant Maughan and Lieutenant Wilkin, who knelt down to receive a gift which the regiment will esteem the highest mark of honour that possibly can be paid to them by a lady holding the high rank of Countess Percy. Addressing the regiment, Countess Percy said:—

"Officers and men of the Northumberland Light Infantry, I congratulate myself that it has fallen to my lot to have the honour of committing these colours to your charge, to be held by you as the emblems of your duty to your Queen and your country, and to the honour of Northumberland. The high reputation for order and discipline which you have gained for yourselves in time of peace is a guarantee that, if ever the cause of England calls these colours to the field, they will be guarded with the same dauntless valour as won glory for your forefathers in the sternest battles fought and gained on the soil of your own Northumberland."

Earl Percy having acknowledged the gift, the ceremony concluded; and the regiment, having formed into companies, marched past in open and quarter distance column, after which they left the castle grounds by the same route as they had entered.

THE APPLICATION of the trades union delegates to have Mr. Connolly reinstated on the Trades Union Committee has been rejected, but the Commissioners are willing to receive a substitute.

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

The Emperor and Empress of the French are still at the Camp of Châlons. They will leave on the 18th (to-morrow) for Salzburg, where they will arrive the following day. The King of the Greeks, who arrived at Paris on Tuesday, visited the Emperor at Châlons on Thursday.

The Government has received a telegram from M. Dano, dated the 20th ult., in which he announces his intention to leave Mexico for France in a few days, unless anything unforeseen should happen.

### ITALY.

The Senate has adopted the most important clauses of the Ecclesiastical Liquidation Bill, and there is no doubt the bill will pass. During the discussion on the bill, Signor Rattazzi expressed confidence in the success of the financial operation. He stated that it would be necessary to put an end to the forced currency in 1868; and, in commenting upon the general state of the finances, declared that further economy would be effected in the Budget for 1868. He, moreover, promised to lay before Parliament a number of bills for the reorganisation of the public administration, and tending to open fresh sources of national wealth.

### PRUSSIA.

The Prussian journals insist that when the Emperor Napoleon leaves Salzburg he will have an interview with the King of Prussia at Coblenz. What is more, they all speak of the projected interview as being a mark of the improved relations between the two countries. In this direction, too, it may be noticed that a French paper says the differences between Prussia and Denmark are in a fair way of settlement.

### AUSTRIA.

The Emperor and the Imperial family of Austria have expressed to the Prussian Government, through the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, their thanks for the devotion and great energy displayed by Baron Magnus, the Prussian Minister at Mexico, in his efforts to save the Emperor Maximilian.

The conference of Hungarian and Austrian deputies have agreed upon the principle by which Hungary's share in the expenses of the empire is to be fixed. The share to be covered by Hungary is not to be regulated by the direct or indirect taxes, or by any other system of taxation. It is the actual amount hitherto contributed by Hungary to the general expenses that is to serve for a basis for the future settlement of the financial relations of Hungary and Austria.

A misunderstanding has arisen between Austria and Italy on two points. The first relates to the partial return of the Venetian archives and objects of art removed to Austria when Venice was evacuated. The plenipotentiaries appointed to arrange the matter had come to an agreement, when the Italian Government refused its sanction to the arrangement. In consequence of this, the Italian plenipotentiary resigned his powers, adding that he was convinced of the justice of Austria's claim. The second point is as to the boundary between Friuli and Görz. The commissioners appointed to settle the matter have not been able to come to an arrangement. These statements are made by Vienna papers, and may therefore not precisely represent the exact position of affairs.

### RUSSIA.

Peace has been concluded between Russia and Bokhara.

The Czar and the Grand Duke Vladimir arrived, on Wednesday week, at Livadia, in the Crimea.

### CRETE.

Intelligence from Athens, dated Aug. 8, states that a great number of Candian families were still being conveyed from the island by French and Russian vessels. The Arcadi had accomplished her twenty-second voyage. The Annexion, another Greek steamer, had also gone to Candia, and, after disembarking victuals and ammunition, returned with Candian fugitives on board. The brigands are being pursued with the greatest activity, and are now almost wholly exterminated.

### DENMARK.

An address, numerous signed by Schleswigers who have left their homes and are residing in Denmark, has been presented to the French journalists now on a visit to Copenhagen. The address thanks France for her disinterested sympathy, as well as her defence of the rights of the Danes, and expresses the firmest confidence in the further magnanimous aid of the French people.

### THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. Stanton, having refused to resign his office at the request of the President, the latter has now suspended him and appointed General Grant to be Secretary for War.

Governor Brownlow had a majority of 30,000 votes in the Tennessee election, which passed off quietly.

General Sheridan has removed Governor Throckmorton, of Texas, for opposing the State Convention and otherwise impeding reconstruction, and has appointed ex-Governor Pease as his successor. General Sheridan has also removed the Alderman and Assistant Alderman of New Orleans for misfeasance, and for opposing the reconstruction laws. It is reported that the President was about to remove General Sheridan.

A delegation of Conservative Republicans from Pennsylvania has waited on President Johnson, and informed him that their party, not being in a condition to act in concert with the Democrats, proposed to nominate candidates on a platform of their own, distinct from either of the great political parties. The President, in reply, it is reported, said he trusted both wings of the party supporting him would bury past differences for the promotion of the common end.

The Democrats have succeeded in carrying the elections in Kentucky.

The jury who tried Surratt for complicity in the assassination of President Lincoln have been dismissed, having been unable to agree upon a verdict.

### MEXICO.

The New York papers publish advices from Mexico, by way of Rio Grande, confirming the shooting of Castillo and other Imperialists at Queretaro, and of Vidaurri at Mexico city. Juarez was apparently the unanimous choice of the people for the next presidency. Canales and Goniez were causing great trouble in Tamaulipas, and forces were moving to crush them out. A general confiscation of Imperialist property had commenced. Escobedo had proclaimed his policy to be to exterminate or drive all foreigners from Mexico.

Lopez, the betrayer of Maximilian, had been arrested at Oajaca by the Governor, and ordered to be tried by court-martial for excesses committed by him while an Imperial officer.

It is stated that the body of the Emperor Maximilian has been given up to Baron Magnus, the Prussian Minister in Mexico.

A REMARKABLE FAMILY PARTY.—A dinner party of a somewhat remarkable character took place in the neighbourhood of Greenock the other day. A man, with his wife, residing near that town, invited their family, nine in number, and all of them sons, to take dinner together under the paternal roof, and they all attended on the day appointed. Five of them, who are married, were accompanied by their wives and children, fourteen in number, and these, too, singular though it may appear, were all sons. The company comprised the venerable occupants of the house, nine sons, fourteen grandsons, and five daughters-in-law. It should be stated that there were no daughters, and there have been no deaths in any of the families.

AGRICULTURAL GANGS BILL.—This bill, which provides for the regulation of gangmasters in respect of the employment of children, young persons, and women, enacts that no child under the age of eight years shall be employed in any agricultural gang, that no females shall be employed in the same agricultural gang with males, and that no female licensed to act as gangmaster is also present with that gang. It also provides for the licensing of gangmasters, and enacts that no person acting as a gangmaster shall also hold a license to sell beer, spirits, or any other excisable liquor. These licenses are to be in force for six months only, and all penalties under the Act may be recovered summarily before two or more justices of the peace. The Act does not relate to Scotland or Ireland.



## THE FONTAINEBLEAU MURDER.

THE Court of Assizes of Melun has been engaged in the trial of Mme. Frigard for the murder of Mme. Mertens, aggravated by the crimes of robbery and forgery. The body was found by some workpeople in the forest of Fontainebleau in May last; a part of the unfortunate lady's face had been eaten by insects, and it was only by her clothes that she was recognised as one of the ladies who had alighted at the Hôtel de France a week before, and had left for a drive in the forest. The second, the accused, had afterwards returned to the hotel, pretending that she had lost her friend during their excursion. The indictment contains the following further details:—Mme. Mertens, a Belgian by birth, was the widow of a large carrier at Boulogne-sur-Mer, but since the death of her husband, in 1861, had lived a rather irregular life in Paris, residing in the Rue Laval. In the month of March she had deposited a sum of 7500*fr.* at the Comptoir d'Escompte, and which she had received for the sale of a business belonging to her; she at the same time lodged a sum of 500*fr.* with a banker named Lécuyer. Mme. Frigard was the wife of a bankrupt silk-merchant of Caen, and had arrived in Paris in December, 1866, to seek her fortune, with a sum of 300*fr.* only in her pocket. Being of an active and energetic but unscrupulous nature, she concealed beneath an affable and obsequious exterior a crafty and violent character. In her efforts to find some person to advance her money to go into business, she was introduced in February to Mme. Mertens, and soon acquired such an influence over her that two months later, in conversation with a house agent, she said, alluding to Mme. Mertens, that she knew a young widow who possessed 8000*fr.*, and with whom she could do as she pleased. Mme. Frigard was at this moment in treaty for the purchase of a provision-shop, kept by a M. Perrot, in the Rue de Monthonlois, and for which the price asked was 9500*fr.*, 5000*fr.* to be paid before taking possession. Mme. Frigard was then entirely without resources, having been living on borrowed money and other expedients. She then appears to have resolved, in order to take the business in question, to obtain possession of the money held by Mme. Mertens at the Comptoir d'Escompte; and her familiarity with that lady having enabled her to abstract from her friend's apartment a blank cheque, she forged Mme. Mertens' name and drew a sum of 4000*fr.* With this money she paid a first deposit on account of 1500*fr.* for the shop; she also sent 300*fr.* to her husband, paid her debts, purchased jewellery to the amount of 370*fr.*, and spent a portion in treating Mme. Mertens to pleasures and excursions, which were no doubt a part of her deeply-laid scheme. The remaining 3500*fr.* for the business was in the mean time to be paid by May 5, the day fixed for taking possession. Mme. Frigard could no doubt have drawn the sum still remaining in the Comptoir d'Escompte by the means already employed, but Mme. Mertens would eventually have discovered the abstraction. Other means were consequently to be employed. On the 3rd she purchased a revolver and cartridges, which were afterwards found in her possession. On the 5th—the day fixed for the payment—she obtained an adjournment until the 9th. On the 7th she proposed to Mme. Mertens the journey to Fontainebleau, under the pretext that a change of air would be good for both. The two women arrived at the Hôtel de France on the evening of that day, and on the following morning took a carriage for a drive in the forest. At the restaurant of Franchant they dismissed the driver, and after breakfast asked the way to return to Fontainebleau, and at about half-past twelve set out on foot. At half-past four Mme. Frigard arrived alone at the hotel, as already mentioned. She pretended to have no money to pay her bill, and asked for the address of a jeweller to pledge a bracelet, on which she obtained a sum of 40*fr.*, the tradesman copying from a letter her address. On paying her bill at the hotel, although she had previously declared that she had no funds, she was observed to have a 100*fr.* note in her portmanteau. Six days later the body of Mme. Mertens was discovered. Her gold chain and jewels were still in her possession, but a sum of 300*fr.*, which she was known to have had in her possession on leaving Paris, had disappeared, as well as the key of her apartment. A medical examination showed that she had been strangled by a pressure of a hand on the throat, and of a knee on the stomach; the position of the body likewise proved that the crime had been committed while the victim was asleep, and at about an hour after her last meal. Mme. Mertens, in a letter previously written to a friend, had remarked that Mme. Frigard was accustomed to take her to dine to restaurants, and make her drink wines which had the effect of producing drowsiness. The same evening Mme. Frigard, on returning to Paris, went to the lodgings of Mme. Mertens, obtained possession of the papers for drawing the balance from the Comptoir d'Escompte and the 5000*fr.* from M. Lécuyer, and then called on M. Perrot to announce that she was prepared to pay the 3500*fr.* on the morrow. The money was drawn on the following day, and Mme. Frigard took possession of her new business. The signatures of the receipts given to the Comptoir d'Escompte in the name of Mme. Mertens are shown to be forgeries, and Mme. Frigard, in order to justify her possession of the money, afterwards produced a pretended deed of partnership, according to which Mme. Mertens was to furnish a sum of 5000*fr.* The signature to this document is also proved to be false. Mme. Frigard, whose address had been obtained from the jeweller at Fontainebleau, attempted to explain the murder by introducing an imaginary person named Williams whom, she said, Mme. Mertens met by appointment near Franchant, and with whom Mme. Frigard pretended she had left her, and, not finding them again, after waiting an hour and a half, had returned alone to Fontainebleau. No such person had, however, been seen with them, and, moreover, the two women had been met alone beyond the spot where she asserted the meeting with Williams had taken place. On the trial the prisoner displayed great self-possession and intelligence. She is somewhat under the middle stature, and with one shoulder higher than the other. She was dressed in black, and answered all questions with great readiness and in good language.

The appearance at the trial of Mr. Kelly, the second husband of the murdered woman, Mme. Mertens, excited a great *mouvement de curiosité*, but there was little in his disposition to gratify it. He was examined through an interpreter. His name was, he said, Williams Kelly, so that he was the Williams referred to by the prisoner. He is a tall man, fifty-four years of age, with large whiskers nearly white. On being asked his profession, he said he was a barrister, but had never practised. He had no particular place of abode, but had last lived at Boulogne. He believed he was married to Mme. Mertens on Feb. 2, 1862, but was not sure about the date. He believed that he had left her, not she him, immediately after the marriage. He had received anonymous letters on the wedding-day, telling him disagreeable things about her. The consequence was that after the wedding in Boulogne his wife left for England and he left for Paris. He never knew where his wife lived, and was only made aware of her death by an accidental communication from a friend of what he had seen in the papers. Had no friend or acquaintance of the name of Williams. The proprietor of a furnished lodging-house in which Madame had once lived said that a great many gentlemen came to see her, so many that he gave her notice to quit; but as to whether anybody of the name of Williams was among her visitors he could not say. He gave it as his opinion that five Englishmen out of ten are named Williams. (By-the-way, the French spelling of the diminutive of Williams, as given by the prisoner, is *Oulley*.) The evidence reported to-day has all one tendency, and the prisoner's theory becomes more and more improbable. One witness deposed that Mme. Mertens was a cataleptic subject, and, as the prisoner practised mesmerism, the prosecution will seek to establish that she put deceased into a cataleptic state before strangling her. The improbability of her being strangled by a weak woman without resisting is diminished by this theory. The prisoner has been found guilty, with extenuating circumstances, and sentenced to penal servitude for life.

**FEMALE LOVE OF FINERY.**—The Countess of Waldegrave was present last week at a school examination at Wighton, and delivered a short address, in the course of which she said:—"I wish to speak to the females present, especially mothers. There is a subject which I believe a great many will join with me in thinking important in these times in which we live, and that is the subject of female dress in all ranks of life, but especially among those who attend our schools. I regret to say that there is a great deal of what may be called useless finery among the young girls of the present day, and I should think that probably mothers are a little to blame in that particular. I have observed this passion to be on the increase during all my life; and, as God's mercy has spared me through eighty years, I think I may speak from experience on the subject. I must say I think it a great mistake on the part of mothers to dress their children to the utmost extent of their means, instead of inducing them to lay by their pence for what is called a rainy day, or to collect clothing for winter; in place of which they allow their girls to spend all their little money, and what they can add of their own as well, on what I should call unnecessary and useless finery. I am very glad to find that you educate the children well here, and I am delighted to see that needlework is made a very particular point of examination in many of the schools; because, in seeking for female servants, we all want those who can be useful in those particulars, as well as in knitting and darning, for which I have had pleasure in giving prizes in my own country on various occasions. Now, while children are taught to spend all the money that they can get together on little bits of finery, the first thing a mistress has to teach her young servant is to dress neatly, and properly, and respectably, and thus correct the great mistake of mothers who help their children forward in unnecessary outside clothing, while very often, I regret to say, the inside is exceedingly deficient. I therefore hope that mothers who have such opportunities of having their daughters educated—and you have many compared to those enjoyed in my part of the country—will earnestly strive to give them that degree of propriety and neatness in their dress which is always respectable, useful, and efficient. I trust you will excuse me, coming such a distance as I do, for making mention of what many, if they would speak out, really feel in their hearts. I am often told by mothers, 'Well, ma'am, I can't help it. My girl will go to the second-hand shop and get these bits of things, where they are cheap. And it is only a penny flower, and a flower does not wear out so soon as a ribbon.' Well, but that is not neat, nor is it desirable; and when they get into service, most mistresses will object to that kind of finery which is not suitable to the station in which it has pleased God to place them. I hope my female friends will excuse me for giving them these hints, for they are the result of long experience."

## ROYAL LETTERS.

THE papers presented to Parliament respecting the British captives in Abyssinia contain two letters from King Theodoros to her Majesty. The first (translated) is as follows:—

In the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, one God, Amen. From the servant of our Lord and His created Being, the son of David, the son of Solomon, the King of Kings (of Ethiopia), Theodoros. To her whom God has exalted above all Sovereigns and glorified above all Princes and peoples, and made the Defender of the Christian Faith, and the succour of the poor and oppressed, Victoria, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.—Had the illustrious Hormuzd Rassam, whom your Majesty has mentioned to us in your letter, not been sent to us about the matter of Cameron and others, but the lowest of your servants, he would have been received graciously by us. We now send, with Hormuzd Rassam, Cameron and all the other Europeans about whom your Majesty has written. Your Majesty can learn from those who fear the Lord the ill-treatment and abuse which we have received at the hands of the above-mentioned Europeans and the Copt who called himself Metropolitan, the Abcna Salama. In my humble position, I am not worthy to address your Majesty; but illustrious Princes and the deep ocean can bear everything. I, being an ignorant Ethiopian, hope that your Majesty will overlook my shortcomings and pardon my faults. The people whom we have imprisoned for their reviling and defaming us did so because the Gallas had proved victorious over the Royal children of Israel and had humbled them; but God has empowered me, the son of one of the humble women of Israel, to regain that which had been lost by my forefathers. Doubtless your Majesty has learnt how ignorant and blind the people of Ethiopia are; therefore I beg of your Majesty not to take amiss the mistakes I may make in my correspondence with you. Counsel me, but do not blame me, O Queen! whose majesty God has glorified, and to whom he has given abundance of wisdom. Dated the 22nd day of January, 1868 (Jan. 29, 1866).

But the King did not, in fact, let the Europeans go. On April 13, the day appointed by him for their departure, they were stopped and put in prison again; and on the 17th the King wrote another letter to her Majesty, stating that he had kept her servant, Mr. Hormuzd Rassam, "for the sake of consulting together upon the extension of our friendship." The prisoners were, in fact, detained as hostages for the arrival of the English artisans demanded, and to prevent any aggressive movement against him. In an interview which the King had with his German workmen, he said, "If I let them go, what shall I have in hand?" Under these circumstances, the reply of her Majesty took the form of a remonstrance:—"Victoria, by the grace of God, &c., to Theodore, King of Abyssinia, sendeth greeting." After reciting the facts which had occurred, this Royal letter proceeded as follows:—

Your Majesty must be aware that it is the sacred duty of Sovereigns scrupulously to fulfil engagements into which they may have entered, and that the persons of ambassadors, such as our servant Rassam, and those by whom they are accompanied, are, among all nations assuming to be civilised, invariably held sacred. We have, therefore, the more difficulty in accounting for your Majesty's hesitation; and we invite your Majesty to prove to the world that you rightly understand your position among Sovereigns, and do not desire to neglect the international duties which it is incumbent on all Sovereigns to fulfil. Your Majesty may be assured that we shall be disposed to attribute to misapprehension on your part, rather than to ill-will towards us, the delay which has occurred in the return of Rassam and those whom you had engaged to send with him; but in the uncertainty which we cannot but feel as to your Majesty's intentions we cannot allow Flad to be the bearer of those tokens of goodwill which we proposed that he should convey to your Majesty. But, in full confidence that the cloud which has darkened the friendship of our relations will pass away on the return of Flad, and desiring that you should as soon as possible thereafter receive the articles which we had proposed to send to your Majesty in token of our friendship, we have given orders that those articles should be forthwith sent to Massowah to be delivered, for conveyance to your Majesty's Court, to the officers whom you may designate to conduct our servant Rassam and our servant Cameron and the other Europeans so far on their way to our presence. And so we bid you heartily farewell. Given at our Court at Balmoral, the 4th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1866, and in the thirtieth of our reign.—Your good friend, VICTORIA R.

Sealed with the large signet, and superscribed "To our Good Friend, Theodore, King of Abyssinia." This has been followed at a later date by a letter from the Secretary of State, dated April 16, 1867:—

I am commanded by the Queen, my Sovereign, to state to your Majesty that she had expected to learn by this time that the prisoners, respecting whom her Majesty wrote to you, on the 4th of October last, had been all released and had arrived at Massowah, and that the presents which were awaiting their arrival at Massowah were already on their way to Abyssinia. The Queen regrets to find that although you had become acquainted with the contents of the letter, by the copy sent up by Mr. Flad, you had hesitated to comply with her Majesty's wishes for the release of the prisoners, and, instead of sending them at once to Massowah to be exchanged against the presents, had looked still to obtain the presents on the faith of your own assurance that on the receipt of them you would release the captives. Looking to what has already passed, the Queen cannot again write to your Majesty; but she has desired me to write, and to say that her determination, as expressed in her Majesty's letter, of which you know the contents, is unchanged and unchangeable, and that, so far from being willing to allow the presents to go on before the prisoners have reached Massowah, the Queen has sent orders that the presents shall be returned to Europe, unless the British authorities at Massowah are satisfied within three months after the dispatch of this letter from that port, a copy of which is sent by three different messengers, that the prisoners are actually released and on their way to the coast. In that case the return of the presents may be deferred for such time as may suffice for the prisoners to perform the journey to Massowah, on their arrival at which place the presents will be made over to your agents. The Queen has forbidden her agents to enter into further correspondence on these matters. Her Majesty requires, for the last time, by her Secretary of State, that the prisoners should be made over to her; and she trusts that your Majesty will be sufficiently well advised to comply with her demand rather than forfeit the friendship which, notwithstanding all that has happened, the Queen is still disposed to entertain for you. Having thus fulfilled the commands of the Queen, my Sovereign, I bid your Majesty heartily farewell.—Your sincere friend, STANLEY.

With this the official correspondence closes. Nothing more was to be said.

**FRENCH EXPEDITION TO THE POLAR SEA.**—Fifty distinguished Frenchmen have sanctioned an enterprise for the discovery of the North Pole. M. Gustave Lambert, formerly a pupil at the Polytechnic, now in the hydrographic department, proposes to reach the open Polar Sea and the Pole itself by a route never before tried. The project has been well received, and a subscription has been opened. As soon as 600,000*fr.* are obtained the enterprise will be carried out. Amongst the fifty names appended to the announcement are those of Elie de Beaumont, Chasseloup-Laubat, Michel Chevalier, Drouyn de Lhuys, Guizot, Emile de Girardin, De Quatrefoires, Leonce de Lavergne, Leon Say, Alfred Maury, and Milne Edwards. The president of the executive committee is M. Chasseloup-Laubat. The Emperor has given his full approval to this spirited project.

**CLERGYMEN'S CHANGES.**—At this time of the year all the clergy want "a change," and each one is, therefore, busily advertising for what he calls a *locum tenens*—somebody to take charge of his parish while he is off to the Continent. He sets forth the attractions of his place in the brightest possible colours, so as to induce some brother to do duty for him at a small rate of pay, or possibly for nothing at all. One offers his "house, garden, servants free, horse, and garden," to anybody who will become his substitute; another holds out the further inducement of "milk, butter, and garden produce." Very snug and pleasant are the ideas suggested by all these advertisements, but it must not be supposed that the clergy, in their anxiety to arrange for their holidays, omit to care for the souls of their parishioners. These advertisements have, within the last two or three years, become more expensive. An extra line has to be inserted in each one. In an Established Church it should seem sufficient for a clergyman to arrange or exchange with a neighbouring incumbent without further question; his position should be sufficient security for his doctrine. And so it was formerly; but now each clergyman requires for personal guarantee from his *locum tenens*, without which he would not let him into his pulpit on any account. In the *Record*, therefore, you have *clergymen advertising for a locum tenens* of "Evangelical views," in the *Guardian* of "moderate views," and in the *Church Times* of "Catholic views." The ecclesiastical gamut is now divided into the most delicate chromatics. In a single page of one of these journals now before us we find among the "Wanted" "A priest of sound Church views," "A curate of sound moderate views," "A clergyman of no extreme views," "A curate of Catholic views," of "Liberal High-Church," "Moderate High-Church," and "High-Church, but not extreme views;" "Sound Church," "Loyal to the Church of England;" and, finally, one clergyman, who is particularly careful to keep betwixt and between, wants to meet with "a brother clergyman of moderate 'vid mediū' views!" Surely this is tautologically explicit; we suppose it means, in plain English, "wishy-washy." Though "Broad Church" does not happen to be mentioned amongst all this variety of "views," we should ask again whether variety of taste is not already sufficiently provided for in the English Church? What further "comprehension" can be desired? He who cannot suit himself in an establishment where such a well-assorted stock of ecclesiastical opinions is kept on hand must be hard indeed to please.—*English Independent*.

## THE FAMINE IN ORISSA.

THE extreme severity of the distress in Orissa last year is shown by the following passages in the evidence taken by the commission of inquiry. The Rev. Mr. Miller, a missionary of Ballasore, said:—

Hundreds died in fields and out-of-the-way places where no one saw them. If one chanced to cross the country one saw the bodies lying about, and the jackals eating them. I should say (to be within bounds) that about a fourth of the population of Orissa has died. The misery and suffering have never been fully described; it would have been almost impossible to exaggerate them."

A native deputy-magistrate of the same district, Mouliro Mahomed Abdoolia, says:—

Large establishments of men and carts were kept up in the town for collecting the dead bodies; at first they were cast into a pit, but subsequently they were thrown into the river, and floated out to sea. It was a remarkable fact that jackals, vultures, and dogs did not eat the bodies of the paupers. This was a general subject of conversation; perhaps the reason was that the bodies were so thin.

Baboo Churn Doss states that:—

For months no one could drink the water of the river. Several witnesses state that the people were like walking skeletons. Many died from eating rice uncooked; they were so ravenous that they would not wait to cook it; it was gone in two minutes. The greater proportion of those who came in to Ballasore for food in May and June had just strength to crawl and keep life together for a time, but did not survive. They were so reduced that nothing but the most anxious tending and medical treatment could have saved them, and this with such an enormous mass of people was impossible. Great numbers laid down and died without making any attempt to go to the centres of relief when they were established. The women held out best. Few high-caste people would work, except at the last extremity, and then they were too weak generally to be restored by food; it caused diarrhoea.

Judge Wadhope says:—

I left for Ballasore in May. The men, women, and children seen on the road were literally starving skeletons. I saw so many dead bodies that I cannot say when I first began to see them. Every part of Ballasore was covered with living skeletons picking up bits of stick to cook the rice given to them. Hundreds were lying on the side of every road. They seemed as if black parchment were stretched over bones. When I returned to Calcutta the sight was ten times more horrible than when I had come, there were such numbers of people lying in the mud dead and dying. I was in Ballasore again in August. Things were improved, but the whole air was saturated with horrible effluvia.

A gentleman from the Cuttack district mentions that on the whole the people bore their sufferings with astonishing patience; but an assistant magistrate at Ballasore states that the strong would take the food from the weak, and that he was often struck with the absence of help afforded to the weak by natives. Crime increased greatly, owing to thefts of food and a desire to get into prison. Dr. Jackson, medical officer in charge of Ballasore civil station, speaking of the month of June, says:—

People used to lie down under the trees at night to sleep, and to be found dead there in the morning. Cases occurred in which people fell into the water from debility when they went to drink. I saw a woman lift up her arm and let it drop while a dog was pulling at her entrails and eating them. People died in the roads and fields all about. Many died without being seen. One man died in my compound with a crowbar in his hand, trying to work—that is, he fainted, and never spoke or swallowed afterwards, was kept in the verandah all night, and died in the morning. Caste prejudices interfered, and many people would not eat the food most necessary in their condition, such as soup. When people are reduced in weight beyond a certain point they almost invariably die. There was terrible struggling at the places of sale of rice. I had the door of my own house broken in, and the coat torn off my back by women eager to purchase. Those who fared worst in the struggle to buy rice were those, the very poorest, who had to go to work, and could not spare time. Later we discovered that a great part of the famine mortality was due to an extraordinary tendency to frightful worms, which produced false appearances of cholera and other diseases. At the hospital the mere occupation of throwing the dead bodies into a pit and covering them with earth was more than enough to employ every meiter we could get, the meiters being the only caste in the district who would touch dead bodies.

A Calcutta correspondent mentions three instances in which human flesh was eaten. Another case is mentioned by Mr. Smalley, assistant superintendent of police at Ballasore, a case of "extreme hunger." A witness stated that the mortality fell very heavily on the labouring classes. When the supply of rice was limited, a man who had a little muscle on him would be refused relief, although he was starving; he would be told to go to work. Employers of labour say that it is now very scarce, so many of the ordinary labourers are dead.

**THE TRAINING OF THE PRINCE IMPERIAL.**—The Prince Imperial's education is now going to enter a new phase. The Emperor having decided that he should henceforth, as was the case with the sons of Louis Philippe, follow the lectures that are delivered at the different lycées in Paris, his Imperial Highness will have to live in common with boys appertaining to every class and rank, and if he is not obedient or attentive to his lessons he will be punished just like any other collegian.

**A DIFFICULTY.**—In the Liverpool County Court, last week, before Mr. J. K. Blair, judge, a case was called on in which Brigham Young, the Mormon high priest, was the defendant. Mr. William Hall sued Brigham F. Young, Mormon publisher of the *Millennial Star*, for the sum of £1 12*s.* for wages in lieu of notice. When the case was called on for hearing, a gentleman appeared, whom the plaintiff described as the "Mormon bishop of the district," and who he said had the entire management of the transactions of the Mormons, and their business carried on at the address given. The gentleman alluded to said that Mr. Brigham Young, the party sued by the plaintiff, resided in America, and he (the person who appeared) declined to have his name substituted for that of Mr. Young. The plaintiff then inquired what he was to do in the matter. Mr. Watson (deputy-registrar) suggested that the plaintiff would have either to follow Mr. Brigham Young to the Salt Lake City, or wait until he came to this country. (Laughter.) His Honour held that there had been no service of the summons, and the unfortunate plaintiff was, therefore, left to his resources as to how he should obtain his money from the high priest of Mormonism or his representatives.—*Liverpool Advertiser*.

**THE HARVEST AND THE MEANS OF SAVING IT.**—Why do not the various agricultural societies seriously take up the question of the harvesting of wheat and other grain crops in rainy weather? Every year, unless the season is unusually propitious, all sorts of odds and ends of suggestions are put forward by individual advisers, not one of which embraces all the facts of the subject. And in the mean time the losses, not only to the farmer but to the whole country, amount annually to sums of most formidable amount. At this present moment it depends upon a very few weeks of rain or of sunshine whether the nation is to be poorer or richer by several millions; and yet where is the farmer who has matured a method for, at any rate, diminishing the losses that will come upon him if the remainder of the month turns out wet? The magnitude of the risk may be estimated by those who know nothing of agriculture if they will remember that the value of a single acre of wheat in this country ought certainly to be not much less than £15; a fine crop on excellent land is often worth much more. Consider, then, what this means. As we have as yet no certain returns of the breadth of land under cultivation for wheat or any other crops, it is of course impossible to say exactly what is the amount of the food of the people which is at this moment imperilled. But, from the simple fact that a loss of only half a crop upon 100,000 acres is equivalent to a loss of about three quarters of a million sterling, it is easy to judge what a vast interest is now trembling in the scale. As for the supposition that the ingenuity of cultivated agriculturists and the mechanical skill of agricultural-machine makers are unequal to the devising of some practicable method for reducing the possible damage of a bad harvest to a minimum, it can hardly be maintained.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

## "AN UNLUCKY MEETING."

THE picture from which our Engraving is taken is one of the most attractive examples of the modern German school in the Fine-Art Exhibition of Paris this year; and, simple as is its subject, it affords ample opportunity for the display of that vigorous drawing and harmonious composition for which M. Dieffenbach is famous. Terrible, indeed, is the mischance which threatens such fatal results to the pampered silken team of that aristocratic equipage; fierce and fell is the democratic passion of those rough antagonists whose fury yields to no restraint, and on whom the shouts of their masters make no impression. If some kind hand would cut the dainty harness and set the four victims free, there would be some chance for them; but with that drove coming on behind, amidst the cloud and whirl of dust, the imagination refuses to picture the extent of the calamity. Why did the determined young charioteer dare the perils of the hot and arid public road when he had the whole range of that wooded park, with its grateful shade of trees and its soft velvet turf? There was no security when once he had passed to the outer side of the





"AN UNLUCKY MEETING."—(FROM A PICTURE, BY M. DIEFFENBACH, IN THE PARIS FINE-ART EXHIBITION)

great gate, and he must now either fight for victory or make an ignominious retreat, if, indeed, the enemy are not before him with an ugly rush and a keen perception of the sweet pasture on those green slopes.

#### "THE PROCESSION OF THE CIRCUS."

THIS picture, painted by M. Meyerheim, has attracted great attention in the Fine-Art Exhibition in Paris, and even to English spectators its story is obvious; for, in fact, it is a story which appeals to all nationalities where the circus is recognised as a popular entertainment. But for the difference of costume in the lookers-on—and in that respect there is no vast disparity—the scene might be at any British village where the great man, the squire, had allowed the poor strolling equestrian troupe to make "a pitch." It is true that the clown is essentially a German *drôle*, and there is a decidedly feldmeister look about the cocked-hatted dignitary; but he is own brother to the gentleman who stands with the long whip, and promotes the gibes of Mr. Merryman in our own sawdust ring. The mother holding the child is a "touch of nature which makes the

whole world kin," and shows that these honest circus-folk are pretty much alike all the world over.

#### VISIT OF THE KING AND QUEEN OF PORTUGAL TO PRINCE NAPOLEON.

THE visit of the King and Queen of Portugal to Paris will probably conclude the state ceremonials which have given to the Emperor such an arduous task during the past season. The departure of Luis I. and his young Queen was postponed until the eve of the Emperor's journey to Châlons; but on the 11th they left for Bordeaux, where they stayed for a day before continuing their journey to Lisbon, through Madrid.

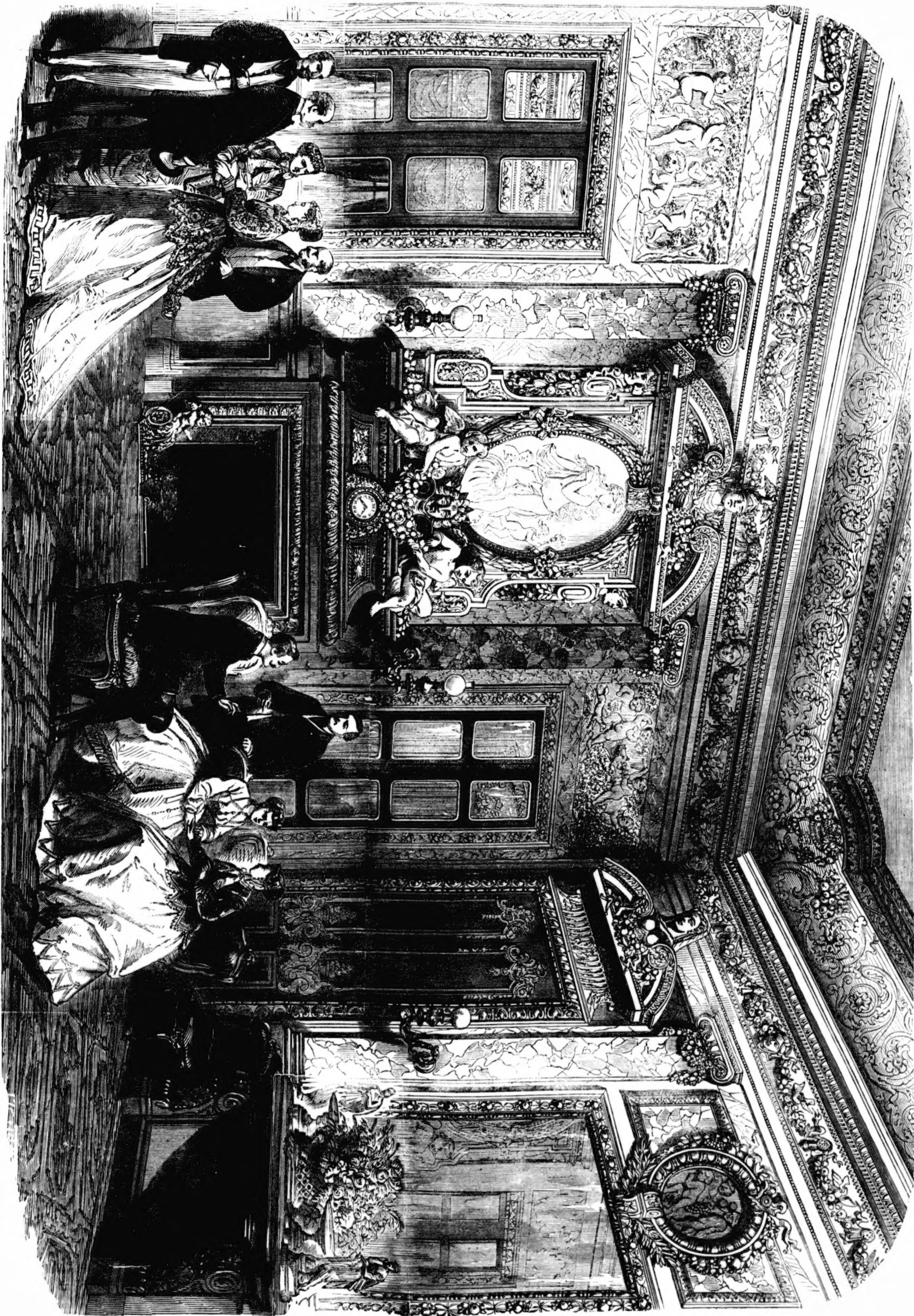
Of course, one of the earliest, as well as the latest, visits paid by the Royal guests was to the Palais Royal, where the sisters Clotilde and Pia, probably, had such confidences to compare—as ladies in all stations may be supposed to make matter for conversation when their meetings are few and far between. Our illustration represents the meeting of these distinguished relatives in the reception-room of the Palais Royal—a dreadfully ornamental, flowery, heavy, carved

and gilded apartment, with all the worst features of the old palace of which it forms a part. Whoever pays a visit to this old palace? In fact, nobody is admitted to view its meretricious splendours, almost the sole remaining relics of the abominable régime of the Regent Duke of Orleans, who made the place the scene of those wild and vicious orgies, carried on in the society of those whom his scandalised German mother called *verteuffelte compagnie*. To visit the rooms and corridors would be to revive recollections of those memoirs left by St. Simon and of the times when a later Duke of Orleans (Philip Egalité) was compelled to pay his debts, and to that end let the gardens of the palace for a bazaar. It was during the residence of his son, Louis Philippe, that the palace was repaired and "embellished," the façade and entrance in the Rue St. Honoré being completed, and the great glass-roofed gallery erected; but Louis Philippe crossed over to the Tuileries, and in 1848 came the revolution, during which the Palais Royal was sacked by the mob, to be again repaired and beautified by Prince Jérôme, whose son now inherits the magnificent furniture and all the decorations of the overloaded apartments.



"THE CIRCUS PROCESSION."—(FROM THE PICTURE, BY M. MEYERHEIM, IN THE PARIS FINE-ART EXHIBITION.)





VISIT OF THE KING AND QUEEN OF PORTUGAL TO PRINCE NAPOLEON AT THE PALAIS ROYAL, PARIS.



## INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 316.

## THE LAST MUSTER.

PARLIAMENTARY proceedings, this week, though more or less important, have been exceedingly dull. We must go back for events worthy of notice. Thursday night, last week, was one of the most important nights of the Session. This was indicated at the opening of the House. Late, when Mr. Speaker walked up the House to prayers, he saw, as a rule, only about a dozen, sometimes not more than five or six, members present; and but for the exertions of the whips on these occasions the requisite forty could not have been got together in time to make a House. But on Thursday night we saw another sight, for when Mr. Speaker appeared there were at least a hundred men assembled to bow to him and join him in his devotions. It was easy to see, at a glance at these men, that many of them had been specially summoned from the country or the seaside for the impending fight. They had gone away, pale and worn, as we all are, more or less, at the end of the Session. They returned with faces tanned with exposure to the action of the sun and the wind, and as lively as young birds. Some of the absentees were a long way off when the clarion sounded the battle-call; but whatever might be the distance, unless they were safely paired, the summons was, in most cases, instantly obeyed. Many were in Ireland; not a few in Scotland; others at Paris; and one, whom we know, was loitering on the side of the Alps. Of course, those who were safely paired needed not to come. Indeed, if a paired member had come, he could not have voted unless his pair had come too. It is calculated that at least 150 members, absent from town, answered the call. Over 450 men voted, leaving a balance of about 250 absentees. The great majority of these were certainly paired. Some, though, were unpaired, and yet did not appear. A great majority of these, it is said, are Conservatives—that is, the Liberals answered the call in larger numbers than the Conservatives. Nor is this surprising, for Conservatives generally do not at heart love this bill. This marriage between Conservatism and Democracy brought about lately to them a strange misalliance—necessary, it may be, for party reasons, as other misalliances are for family reasons; but not pleasant. It is, in their view, at best, a leap in the dark. "It may turn out well, we wish it may," they sadly mutter; but to at least one of the contracting parties it may prove prolific of terrible evils.

## BAROMETERS.

The House, then, is once more assembled in force. The leaders of the two great parties are all here, front to front, with their partisans closely packed behind them. An experienced eye, though, can already detect that the Liberal party is the strongest. To the inexperienced eye the two sides look pretty evenly balanced; but anyone who knows the members, and has the right to walk about the lobbies and offices, may discern that the Liberals have the advantage. There is, too, a perceptible spirit and vivacity on the Liberal side indicative of conscious strength, which is not discernible amongst the Conservatives. The whips, besides, are obviously not hopeful, whilst Glyn and Adam are, as we perceive, exultant. To the observant and practised member, the whips are barometers. If you see the whips of either party anxiously consulting together, or madly, with troubled faces, rushing about, you may be sure that their party is in danger; whilst, on the contrary, if they are elated, or even tranquil, you may be pretty certain that all is right with them. They may try to be calm under impending calamity; but nature will out. The coolest whip in our time was Mr. Hayter, now the Right Honourable Sir William Hayter, Bart.; and he was as active as a bird. But when he was winning he was never unusually elated, and when he was losing he seldom showed much depression. But, even in him, a close inspection discerned the signs of the weather. Mr. Brand is an aristocrat born. He comes of the Dacre family, and, of course, can be cool, or even cold, as Brooks's Club itself; but, though he was never excited by victory, his usually calm and impassive face often showed signs of anxiety when defeat cast its shadow before. The present Liberal whip is new to his business; and since he has wielded the thongs his party has been broken in pieces, and whipping all but useless. If he summoned his fellows it was for the most part an equal chance whether they would go for or against him; but his mobile face tells the thoughts behind. Colonel Taylor has been the chief whip of the Conservatives for more than a dozen years; and the reader might think that he had become case-hardened, and would look the same whether defeat or victory were ahead. But it is not so; no barometer ever indicated the weather more faithfully than his face does.

## THE GIFT OF SILENCE.

But, now, is this to be a long job, this considering the Lords' amendments? They are numerous, and some very important. But let us hope two nights will suffice. On Monday grouse-shooting will begin. If possible, we must finish on Friday night, so that the sportsmen may leave town on Saturday for the moors. Two nights then, we said, must settle this business. "But it was settled in one." Yes, it was settled in one. Not long after midnight my Lords' amendments had been debated, the question thereon put, and the decision given. Such rapid work as this has scarcely ever been paralleled. This rapidity was mainly owing to the skill, and tact, and reticence of the leader of the House. He opened the evening with a speech announcing the policy of the Government. His speech was short and compact, and after that he scarcely uttered a word during the whole night. He wanted rapidity of action, and not a war of words; and knowing well that talk is prolific of talk, that one speech often breeds a dozen, he sat and listened, and was silent. Bright earnestly appealed to him in vain; Gladstone, in his most impassioned style, and with astonishing wealth of arguments and words, kept the House in a fever of excitement for an hour, but nothing moved our imperturbable leader. Calm, silent, immovable he sat. He had adopted the policy of silence, and, having anchored on that ground, neither storms could force him nor syren's song allure from it; and the policy of the leader became, as it is wont to do, the policy of the party. Indeed, scarcely a man of the party spoke all the night. Newdegate spoke for a time in his solemn tones; Mr. Scourfield, after his manner, maundered for a few minutes, and Beresford Hope gave us, with Batavian grace, one more specimen of his grotesque rhetoric; and there may have been a speech or two more from that side. But the speakers were not party-men—not of Disraeli's army, but free lances. From the Treasury bench came no sound; and the Conservative phalanx, massed behind their leader, were silent, except that they now and then cheered and groaned. This, of course, they could not help doing. It is their nature to do this, as it is the nature of owls to hoot and dogs to bark. And this is how it happened that we did the work of two nights in one. It must be certainly placed to the credit of the Conservative leader. And here let us notice that this is not the first time that he has developed this remarkable talent for silence. It has been conspicuous ever since he took office, and most conspicuous whilst steering the Reform Bill through the House. Precious gift! and especially precious in a leader of the House of Commons. But for this power to hold his tongue, Mr. Disraeli would never have got this bill through the House. Moreover, he seems to be able to silence his colleagues' tongues, either by positive and inexorable command or by the mesmeric power of example. In reviewing the course of this bill, it is astonishing to find how little speaking came from the Treasury bench. Of course, underlings are never allowed to speak except to order. The command to them is like that given to children—to hear, see, and say nothing. Greater freedom is allowed to Cabinet Ministers; they, one would think, must be entirely free; but, if this be so, they have used their freedom very little; during the latter part of the course of the bill, scarcely at all; and, from appearances discernible by the experienced, but all dark to the uninitiated, never, except when they were invited or ordered to speak. It has seemed to us, whilst watching the progress of this measure, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has ruled his Ministry with despotic power. "You must speak," he seemed to say to one, and he spoke. To others he issued no command, and they were silent. And more than once—once cer-

tainly—with an appearance of something like contempt, when one of his colleagues had earnestly and eloquently defended a position, Disraeli, with no word of apology to said colleague, rose, and, without noticing the arguments of his "right hon. friend," had opened the gates and ceded the position to the foe. Further, it has been remarked that, whatever may have been done in the Cabinet, in the House the leader appeared to consult none of his colleagues. We noticed in our last that Disraeli had secured a private room out of the precincts of the House, and it may be imagined that there councils of war assembled. We, however, doubt this. At all events, generally no one was present there with the Conservative chief but his private secretary, Mr. Corrie, and Mr. Lambert, of the Poor-Law Board, who has had much to do in framing the bill. In short, Disraeli has steered this bill through himself; alone he did it; and with what wonderful skill, none but those who watched him from night to night can know.

## SKILFUL STEERING.

We have likened this operation to steering; and no other metaphor so well describes what Disraeli had to perform. From the first he was encompassed with difficulties. Some of his crew were not stanch; these he got rid of. His boat was not seaworthy; he mended it, patched it, altered it; and now, with a steady hand, and quick eye, and marvellous skill, he takes the helm. And see how cool and calculating, and never at a loss for a shift at a pinch he is! Look how he rises with the mounting wave; or, if that course be too dangerous, shifts his helm, and, steering round the mass of waters, sees them race by him. If a breaker suddenly shows itself, threatening wreck, he gives the word "Starn all!" and seeks and finds a passage another way. At last, after wrestling in this way with breakers, cross-currents, threatening waves, and all sorts of dangers for months, he conquers, and gets his craft into still waters, or safe harbour at last. In plain English, and without a metaphor, he passes his bill; and all must allow, whether trembling Whigs, fierce ultra Tories, dubious Conservatives, or sympathising Radicals, that for tact, adroitness, and skill, the man that conquered all these difficulties has no superior, and scarcely an equal, in Parliamentary history. In short, whatever we may think of him, he is a very clever fellow.

## TALKING-OUT.

Talking-out is a strategy often adopted by a party to stop an obnoxious measure which said party is not strong enough to defeat in a division. The strategy cannot be used except at a morning sitting. At night sittings, when the time is unlimited, talking-out is not available; but at morning sittings the time is limited to four or six, or, as in modern practice, to seven o'clock. On Tuesday last the question before the House was the Parks Bill. This is to the Radicals a most hateful measure. But in a division they would have been beaten hollow, and therefore to defeat or postpone it—and postponement at this late period of the Session is defeat—they determined to talk it out; and they succeeded—succeeded in keeping up a wearisome stream of talk for nearly five hours. Of course, the talk was for the most part loose, vapid, insane enough; but it was good enough for the purpose—that purpose being not to reason or throw light upon the subject, but to occupy so much time. To our minds, this talking-out is not a very honourable employment. It may be necessary in extreme cases; but certainly it brings no honour to the talkers. No brain power is required for the work; all that is needed is a lively fancy, volubility of tongue, toughness of lungs, and a certain amount of cool courage to resist attempts to put you down. A voluble blockhead can do this work better than a man of intellectual powers. We would back Whalley to do this work better than Gladstone, Bright, or Disraeli; but the end in this case seems to justify the means; and this talking out forced the Government to modify the bill.

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Duke of MONTROSE laid on the table the postal convention with the United States, the object of which, as he explained, is to reduce the ocean postage from 1s. to 6d., a measure to be followed, as his Grace hoped, in a short time by the establishment of a daily communication between the two countries. He also observed that the United States Government had acted with the utmost cordiality in conducting the negotiations, and showed the greatest anxiety to facilitate the communication with the British colonies, especially that with Columbia.

On the motion of the Earl of DEVON, the Factory Acts Extension Bill, from the Commons, was read the second time, after some observations by the Earls of SHAFTESBURY and HARROWBY testifying to the great necessity which existed for the measure.

The Militia Pay, the Indemnity, the Banks Post Bills (Ireland), the Customs Revenue, the Inland Revenue, and the District Lunatic Asylum (Ireland) Bills were severally read the third time and passed.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## CHURCH RATES.

Mr. GLADSTONE gave notice that early next Session he should introduce a bill for the abolition of the compulsory payment of church rates.

## UNIVERSITY EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in answer to a renewed question by Mr. Fawcett, stated that Ministers did not contemplate the adoption of any scheme relating to University education in Ireland without first consulting Parliament.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The Merchant Shipping Bill, the Church Temporalities Orders (Ireland) Validation Bill, and the Railway Companies (Ireland) Advances Bill were severally read the third time and passed.

## SUPPLY.

The remainder of the day was chiefly occupied with the discussion of the Miscellaneous Estimates (including the votes for science and art) in Committee of Supply. A long discussion on the vote of £25,000 for the entertainment of the Sultan took place, which ended in the vote being agreed to.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The report of Supply was brought up by Mr. Dodson, and Mr. B. HOPE availed himself of the opportunity to call attention to the proposed removal of Canning's statue from its present position, and to the general arrangements of Parliament-square. The hon. member for Stoke intimated that in his opinion the present site is a perfectly appropriate one. If they moved back the statue to its old site they would, he warned them, destroy the perspective effect of the locality.

After further discussion the report was received. The Fortifications Bill passed, and that harbinger of the close of the Session, the Appropriation Bill, was brought in and read the first time.

MONDAY, AUGUST 12.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

## THE REFORM BILL.

The Earl of DERBY explained the views of the Government with reference to the Commons' amendments to the amendments of their Lordships in the Representation of the People Bill. Alluding to the amendment assented to by the Commons relating to three-cornered constituencies, the noble Earl admitted that he was not favourable to that method of distribution. It was a novelty at the time of the passing of the Reform Act, and he doubted the advisability of extending the system in order to give effect to the principle of the representation of minorities. On the whole, he very much regretted the course the Commons had taken on this particular amendment. The Commons' reasons for disagreeing to their Lordships' amendments in introducing voting-papers, and rejecting the clause in the bill which lowered the copyhold and leasehold franchise, reminded the noble Earl of the advice given to a learned Judge on his first appointment, that he should give his judgment by all means, but never give his reasons. Although, then, he did not entertain much respect for the reasons assigned by the Commons; yet, as they had rejected their Lordships' amendments by large majorities in a very full House for so late a period of the Session, he did not flatter himself that if the amendments were insisted upon there would be the slightest prospect of inducing the Commons to alter their views. He had still less reliance upon the result of a conference between the two Houses, where the principal thing done was for the Lords to sit with their cocked hats on and the Commons to stand before them uncovered. Under all circumstances he did not think it worth while for their Lordships to insist upon their amendments.

The Marquis of SALISBURY, upon whose motion their Lordships had adopted the voting-paper clause, rejected by the other House, would not, in deference to the opinion of Lord Derby, insist upon his amendment, though he still believed that it would have had the effect of preventing violence and

intimidation and enabling many electors to record their votes who were now prevented from doing so.

After a short discussion, it was resolved to agree to the Commons' amendments to the amendments of their Lordships, and not to insist upon the amendments which the Commons had rejected.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The Army Reserve Bill, the Militia Reserve Bill, the Expiring Laws Continuance Bill, and the Reformatory Schools Amendment Bill were read the second time. The Factory Acts Extension Bill passed through Committee. The Poor-Law Board Bill and the Bans of Matrimony Bill were read the third time and passed. Numerous other measures were advanced a stage.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

On the order for going into committee on East India revenue accounts, Mr. AYRTON drew attention to the inefficiency of the Indian Government in administering the affairs of trade and agriculture, and, by way of illustrating and proving his case, pointed to the failure, in the first instance, of the telegraphic communication, which was not only most imperfectly worked, but had involved a loss to the revenue of India of upwards of £420,000. The system of railways, too, had been equally unsuccessful. With one exception—that of the Great Indian Peninsula from Bombay—the guarantees were greatly in excess of the receipts, and entailed a serious deficit. The same was the case with the irrigation schemes, as exemplified by one instance where the administration of an expenditure of fifteen millions would have cost in the aggregate some three millions. Lastly, the coal fields of India had been neglected; and, when urged to take measures for opening them, the Government made a grant of 1900 square miles to a single individual, with the proviso that he should manufacture a certain quantity of iron every year, which was just as reasonable as to expect the Great Mogul to grow pineapples in the open air in this country. With the view of curing the defects of administration, and rendering it more efficient, the hon. member made various recommendations, which he embodied in a series of resolutions, to the effect that the Governor-General should be empowered, with the sanction of the Secretary for India, to conduct each department of government in concert with one or more members of his Council, instead of the whole; that to ensure better attention to the affairs of trade and agriculture an additional member of the Governor-General's Council should be appointed to superintend them; that the Bengal Government should be placed on the same footing as that of Bombay; that one nominated and one elected member of the Council of the Secretary for India should cease to hold office at the end of each year; that the members of the Council should retire in rotation according to their length of service, whether as members of Council or as East India directors; and that the existing practice of recording by resolutions of the House certain financial facts relating to India should be discontinued, and that the estimates for all expenditure should be approved by a vote of the House before the same was incurred.

Sir S. NORTHGOTE explained that practically every department of the public service in India was conducted by a member of the Governor-General's Council. When the matter which had to be dealt with was of more than ordinary importance it was brought under the notice of the Governor-General, and if it were what was termed here a Cabinet question it went before the Council, whose decisions, however, the Governor-General had power to overrule. Still, he admitted that this system might be put on a more regular footing, and that the practice, which was equally absurd and inconvenient, of all the members of Council signing the despatches, ought to be done away with. The suggestion that an additional member of the Governor-General's Council should be appointed to superintend affairs of trade and agriculture was worthy of consideration, for there was no doubt the want of a leading mind had been experienced in the different departments; but with respect to irrigation matters were improving, and the Government had recently taken an important step by the appointment of Colonel Stracey as inspector of irrigation works.

Mr. LAING made a long and weighty speech on the whole question. Lord CHANBOURNE strongly advocated the personal responsibility of the Minister for India in preference to the present Council.

Mr. J. S. MILL, on the other hand, advocated the Government by means of a Council.

After some further discussion the resolutions were withdrawn, and the House having gone into Committee, Sir S. NORTHGOTE made his financial statement.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

After some bills had been advanced a stage, the Earl of SHREWSBURY asked whether the Government intended to defend Mr. ex-Governor Eyre in case any further actions were brought against him by the Jamaica Committee or anyone else.

The Duke of BUCKINGHAM said the Government did not. They would wait until the whole of the facts had been fully brought out in court before they took any steps with regard to Mr. Eyre.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## AMENDMENT OF THE POOR LAWS.

Mr. SLATER-BOOTH announced, in reply to Mr. Candlish, that it was the intention of the Government to bring in a bill next Session for the amendment of the laws for the administration of relief to the poor. The question of consolidation was a large one, and would receive attention during the recess.

## STRAY DOGS.

Mr. G. HARDY, in reply to an inquiry addressed to him by Sir P. O'Brien, promised to have the stray dogs of the metropolis looked after.

## PARKS REGULATION BILL.

The House having gone into Committee on the Parks Regulation Bill, on the motion for postponing the preamble,

Mr. P. A. TAYLOR, in fulfilment of the intimation he had given, on a previous stage of the measure, that he would use every means to the forms of the House allowed to ensure its defeat, moved that the Chairman should leave the chair.

Lord ELCHO denied that the bill was in any sense an infringement of the right of public meeting. On the contrary, he held that it was a measure in the interest of the whole people, and that it was the imperative duty of the House to support the Government. He had good evidence for believing that the course which the Reform League had taken did not receive the approval of the intelligent portion of the working classes of the metropolis.

Mr. NEATE could not see how, after the recent challenge thrown out by the League, the Government could, consistently with their dignity, abandon the bill or the majority of the House decline to support them.

Mr. Whalley and Mr. Otway opposed the bill.

Mr. Secretary HARDY reminded the Committee that the House had already formally decided, first, that the bill was not an infringement of the right of public meeting, and next that it was not ill-timed. On both these points, therefore, the Government were supported by the opinion of the House; and he protested, in the name of the working classes, against the supposition that if Parliament chose to pass the bill the working classes would proceed immediately to break the law. He did not believe any such thing. With regard to the assertion of a right to use the parks for public meetings, not only had no such right existed for centuries, but not for years or even months. On no occasion had there been a meeting in any of the parks without remonstrance to show that it was not a right which was recognised; in fact, he challenged hon. members to name a period when such meetings ever began prior to 1855. In successfully resisting the bill they would throw not only Hyde Park, but all others in the metropolis, open for the holding of public meetings, and so injure the interests of the working men themselves, and of all who resort to the parks for the simple purpose of recreation.

Mr. Fawcett, Mr. McLaren, Mr. Mill, Mr. Labouchere, Sir John Gray, Mr. Forster, Mr. Sheridan, and Mr. Cowen stood up and condemned the measure. Mr. Cowen was speaking when, by the standing orders, the debate was adjourned.

## THE MERCANTILE MARINE.

At the evening sitting Mr. O'BRIEN called attention to the laws relating to the mercantile marine, and moved a resolution declaring that they required consolidation and amendment.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

A writ was ordered to issue for the election of a member for Stroud, in the room of Mr. Poulett Scrope, resigned.

The Contagious Diseases (Animals) Bill was recommitted; and Lord R. MONTAGU stated that since the measure was last discussed Government had arrived at the conclusion that it would be desirable to amend the 45th clause, which regulated the landing of foreign animals, by striking out the proviso with reference to Harwich and Southampton, so that all cattle should be slaughtered at the port of entry, and none allowed to leave these ports alive during the period—one year—that the bill is to be in force. The amendment met with general approval, and the bill went through Committee, and was read the third time and passed.

The Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill was also read the third time and passed.

The Traffic Regulation (Metropolis) Bill was opposed, on the order for its second reading, by Mr. Alderman Lawrence in a speech of two hours and a quarter's duration. The objections of the hon. gentleman, however, applied chiefly to questions of detail; and, on the assurance of Sir J. Ferguson, on behalf of the Government, that these should be duly considered in Committee, the bill was, after some discussion, read the second time.

The order for reading the Metropolis Improvements Bill the second time was discharged and the bill withdrawn.

The Courts of Referees Bill was read the third time and passed.

The Hours of Labour Regulation Bill was considered, as amended, read the third time, and passed.

The Artisans and Labourers' Dwellings' Bill, which stood for Committee



was withdrawn, Mr. M. TORRENS intimating that he should bring it in again early next Session.

Mr. Secretary HARDY, in fixing the order for Committee on the Parks Regulation Bill for next day, stated that, considering the tone which characterised the debate on the previous day, he entertained a hope that, by introducing two or three alterations in the bill, he should make it acceptable to the House. He should propose, therefore, in Committee, to strike out the first clause, which prohibited public meetings in the parks, and to make the bill a simple parks regulation bill; and to raise the penalty for a breach of the regulations made by her Majesty from 40s. to £5, as in the Southwark Park Act.

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 15. HOUSE OF LORDS.

##### THE REFORM BILL.

The Royal assent was given by Commission to the Representation of the People Bill. A number of members of the Lower House accompanied the Speaker to hear the Royal assent given, amongst whom were the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lord J. Manners, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Mowbray, the Attorney-General, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Neate, the Solicitor-General, Mr. McLaren, Mr. J. S. Mill, Mr. Du Cane, &c. When the assent had been given the Clerk at the table pronounced the words *La Reine le veut*, amidst some cheering. The Royal Commissioners were, the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Malmesbury, and Lord Colville of Culross.

##### INCREASE OF THE EPISCOPATE BILL.

Lord LYTTELTON moved that the Commons' amendments on this bill be agreed to.

Lord DERBY could not concur in the amendments, which were of a fundamental character, and would be productive of mischief. He pointed out the amendments to which he objected, and, after some discussion, they were rejected.

##### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The County Courts Act Amendment Bill was read the third time and passed.

##### MR. WHALLEY AND MR. BEALES.

Mr. WHALLEY said he had a question of privilege to bring before the House. A few minutes ago he applied to the Speaker to allow Mr. Beales to take a seat below the gallery, but the Speaker refused, assigning as his reason that on Tuesday, when he gave him permission to introduce Mr. Beales, he had also introduced Colonel Dickson and another person. Mr. Whalley likewise complained that when he affirmed he had mentioned the name of Colonel Dickson, the Speaker said he had not heard him, and that when he again affirmed he had done so the Speaker replied that no statement of the hon. member would alter his own opinion.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (interrupting the hon. member) submitted to the Speaker whether this was a question of privilege.

The SPEAKER said, if the question had referred to any other hon. member than himself he should have interfered much sooner. The hon. member was entirely out of order. He almost thought he should stop here, but, perhaps, the House would permit him to say one word. The hon. member came to him a few minutes ago, while he was calling upon hon. gentlemen to put their questions, and requested leave to introduce Mr. Beales. He (the Speaker) called the hon. member's attention to the fact that not only Mr. Beales but two other gentlemen were present on Tuesday. Mr. Whalley replied that he had given him leave to introduce Colonel Dickson also, and he (the Speaker) then told him that he could not get into an altercation with him at that time, but he certainly did not say he would refuse admission to Mr. Beales. He considered the whole proceeding unbecoming and improper, and he extremely regretted that he should be compelled to say so.

##### PARKS REGULATION BILL.

The House having gone into Committee on this bill, Mr. DENMAN moved that Mr. Dodson leave the chair, and said the Government would exercise a wise discretion by withdrawing the bill.

A discussion ensued, after which the Committee divided, when there appeared for the motion, 31; against, 86: majority, 55.

Mr. B. COCHRANE hoped that after the satisfactory division which had just taken place this bill would be allowed to drop, in order that they might be able to proceed with other measures.

The discussion having continued until about half-past six o'clock, Mr. Secretary HARDY announced his intention to give up the bill, as it was idle for him to contend against the "obstinacy" of the minority at that advanced period of the Session.

The bill was then withdrawn amid the cheers of the Opposition.

##### TRAFFIC REGULATION (METROPOLIS) BILL.

The House was occupied during the evening sitting by the consideration of the remaining clauses of this bill, which ultimately passed through Committee.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1867.

#### HOME TOPICS.

Now that the Reform question no longer blocks the way, it is to be hoped that Parliament, on reassembling next year, will be able to devote attention to some of those social matters on which legislation is urgently needed. Not the least pressing of these is the provision of an uninterrupted supply of water in the metropolis and in such other towns as have not already the benefit of such an arrangement. In London at present the water-mains are only turned on for a short time each morning, when the day's supply must be stored up in cisterns and other contrivances. This plan is attended with several serious inconveniences. In the first place, the supply is generally insufficient, for, the cisterns attached to London houses being usually rather circumscribed in dimensions, the quantity of water at the command of the inhabitants is inadequate for their necessities if those frequent and thorough cleansings indispensable to health are practised. Experience has proved that an ample supply of water of as pure a quality as possible is one of the first requisites for health as it is for comfort, especially in hot weather, when frequent ablutions are not only exceedingly grateful but highly beneficial. But, as a rule, the Londoner cannot indulge fully in the luxury of cleanliness, personal and otherwise, for the simple reason that the needful water is not allowed him. The mischief is aggravated in a tenfold degree on Sundays, on which day it is a not uncommon thing for hundreds of households to be entirely without water. The water only "comes on" for an hour or so on Saturday morning; and as the last day of the week is the great

season for household "washing up," the supply is thereby exhausted, and Sunday left minus altogether. That is one evil incident to the practice of intermittent supply; but the cistern system involves others equally grievous. Water stored in cisterns, even when these are well constructed, which is not by any means generally the case, becomes impregnated with impurities; the cisterns themselves get foul; the water, from being exposed to the action of the sun's rays, loses many of its salutary properties; it becomes both insipid and tepid, and is not so refreshing and wholesome, either for external or internal use, as it ought to be. The question of enforcing an uninterrupted supply of water in London has already been mooted in Parliament, and we hope the matter will be taken up with renewed vigour next Session, and be made a prominent feature of the scheme of metropolitan government which we are then promised.

The startling cry of "mad dog" has been heard in the streets of London on more than one occasion within the last few days, and, with the thermometer at nearly one hundred degrees and the public thoroughfares infested by curs of low degree but vicious tendencies, for whom nobody cares, the fact that rabid animals have been running wild and doing serious mischief cannot be regarded with indifference. The operation of the new dog license has had the effect of increasing the number of masterless dogs, for many persons who would not pay for, and did not care to kill, their animals, have turned them out upon the streets, with the usual result of such a process—whether practised upon the human or the canine race—of inducing them to contract depraved and vicious tastes and habits. To put such lost ones out of existence at once would be both a kindness to them and a service to the community. We hope, therefore, that Mr. Gathorne Hardy will be instant and energetic in carrying out his promise of having the stray dogs of London and elsewhere "looked after." It would be well, too, if surveyors of taxes were a little more diligent in the discharge of their duties, and see that no man keeps a dog without duly taking out a license—a state of things which does not obtain universally at present. Justice to those who do pay, to the public in general, and to the exchequer in particular, requires that this point also should be seen to.

Government, in spite of much good advice from a variety of quarters, some of the advisers not having always been sensible in their counsels, seemed bent on forcing their Parks Regulation Bill through Parliament this Session. In this object they have been baffled by the persistent obstruction offered by the opponents of the bill, who, though few, are determined; and we are glad of it. The measure is at once ill-judged, ill-timed, and unnecessary. It had much better be abandoned altogether, or, at least, postponed, when some such compromise as that suggested on Tuesday night by the hon. member for Lambeth might be adopted. Mr. Hughes proposed that a portion of Hyde Park should be set apart in which demonstrations might be held, and thus leave all the rest of the space free for recreation. Such a plan would meet the approval, we are sure, of everyone. Demonstrations in the park have not been of frequent occurrence heretofore; they would have been more rare still had no attempt been made to prevent them; and they are likely to be rarer than ever in the future. There can, therefore, be no difficulty in appropriating a portion of Hyde Park for such occasions when they do arise. And there is example for it. Portions of the park are already devoted to the use of riders and drivers, and into which the general public are not allowed to intrude. What hinders that a like appropriation should be made for the holding of public meetings when such gatherings are deemed necessary, subject to such regulations as may be thought needful, and which might easily be agreed upon? Nothing, so far as we can see, save an angry obstinacy which will not allow Ministers to adopt a conciliatory course that would be certain to deprive agitators of all power for mischief. Mr. Secretary Hardy, having been compelled, much against his will, to swallow the Reform Bill, seemingly wished to revenge himself by indulging in a fling at those demonstrations and their organisers that have been such potent instruments in his coercion. But motives like this, and the legislation they prompt, are alike unworthy of a statesman and unwise in a Minister, and ought to be at once repudiated. Mr. Hardy may be assured that no more likely course could be devised than that he followed to perpetuate the influence of Mr. Beales and his coadjutors, which, but for this opposition, would speedily die of inanition. The latest alterations in the bill proposed by Mr. Hardy do not obviate the objections to the measure, for they will either render it futile altogether, and thereby bring legislation into contempt, or they will place a dangerous power in the hands of the Ranger. To this latter course we repeat the objection we urged when the bill was first introduced. If we are to be coerced in this matter of the parks, let it be done under a distinct and definite law, and not at the will and caprice of an official, however exalted his position may be.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—The Imperial Commission of the Universal Exhibition has issued a notice that the date of Oct. 31, fixed for the closing, will be punctually observed. The materials of the palace and park will be shortly offered for sale, to be delivered as follows:—The aquariums, trees, shrubs, and vegetable soil on Nov. 1, and the ironwork of the building by degrees, as the articles are removed, and at the latest on Jan. 1, 1868. A rumour which prevailed some time ago of the building being sold to Russia must be erroneous.

THE CROPS IN DEVON AND CORNWALL.—The harvest in these two counties is general, and farmers are taking advantage of the splendid weather to push the work as far as possible. A large breadth of barley ground has been cleared. The reports are generally very satisfactory. Wheat, except in a few localities where the rust has done some mischief, is unquestionably more than an average crop; the ear is large and has filled out well. Oats are, it is feared, deficient on the whole; while barley is pronounced to be the heaviest and best crop of the year. Straw is plentiful. Turnips and mangolds are looking as well as could be desired.

#### SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, with various members of the Royal family, attended by the suite, will, according to existing arrangements, leave Windsor Castle next Tuesday evening en route for Balmoral. The Queen will pay a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Roxburghe at Floors Castle, Kelso, on her way north.

THE KING OF THE BELGIANS arrived at Cowes, on Monday morning, on a visit to the Queen. His Majesty was received by Prince Leopold, and proceeded at once to Osborne.

QUEEN AMELIA, widow of Otho, ex-King of Greece, has been attacked with smallpox; but the disease, it is hoped, will not prove dangerous.

THE QUEEN DOWAGER OF NAPLES, who has just died at Albano, of cholera, aged fifty-one, was a daughter of the Archduke Charles of Austria. She married King Ferdinand II. in January, 1837.

THE KING OF THE GREEKS and the Grand Duchess Olga Constantinovna are shortly expected in London.

THE MINISTERIAL WHITEBAIT DINNER took place at Greenwich on Wednesday. The Attorney-General presided, all the leading members of the Government being present, except Lord Derby, who was prevented by a slight attack of indigestion from attending.

GENERAL VON MOLTKE has purchased, with the gratuity he received for his services in the late war, a considerable estate in the district of Schwednitz.

THE LATE DUKE DE MORNAY'S ESTATES at Deauville are about to be sold. He erected this pleasant watering-place under Imperial patronage, but it has not attracted visitors, and property there is very much depreciated.

PROFESSOR AGASSIZ thinks the Florida reefs must have been 70,000 years in formation.

LORD BROUGHAM has arrived at Brougham Hall, and is reported to be in good health, but very feeble.

A CHAMELEON was caught on Holborn-hill a few days ago, and is now in the possession of Mr. Frank Buckland. The creature, although injured by a cab-wheel, is likely to live.

THE OFFICE OF VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE is, upon the next vacancy, to be abolished and a secretary to be appointed capable of holding a seat in Parliament, with a salary not exceeding £1500 a year.

THE HON. ADOLPHUS LIDDELL, Q.C., has been appointed Under-Secretary at the Home Office, on the resignation of the Right Hon. Horatio Waddington, who has filled that office for nearly twenty years.

MR. SPIERS, professor of English at the Ecole des Ponts et Chaussées, and author of the English and French dictionary which bears his name, is among the literary persons named in the French official journal as having obtained the cross of the Legion of Honour.

EARL GROSVENOR laid the foundation-stone of a new infirmary at Macclesfield last week. The intending institution takes its origin in an endowment of £30,000 bequeathed by the late Mr. Tunnicliffe, of Maybury Hall, who left that sum on the condition that £5000, for the purpose of erecting the building, should be raised in a certain time.

IRA ALDRIDGE, the negro tragedian, died at Lodz, Poland, on the 7th inst.

GARIBALDI has for the present stopped the preparations for a rising in Rome. This is owing to the firm stand which the Italian Government have made as to observing to the September Convention.

THE LORDS OF THE ADMIRALTY have invited the principal ship-building firms in the United Kingdom to send in tenders for the construction of an armour-plated iron ship of about 2300 tons. This vessel is to be supplied with twin screws, and her bottom is to be sheathed with wood, which is to be coppered.

CROP PROSPECTS IN CANADA are remarkably good. One of the largest hay crops ever had has been gathered.

THE TYCOON has just authorised the opening at Japan of a third maritime city, named Tauranga, which maintains very active relations with Osaka and Hiogo. The city has an excellent port on the inland sea, and serves as a useful entrepôt for silks, silk-worms, and grain.

MR. S. HIGGS, jun., of Penzance, has invented a tube for the present Davy lamp, which has glass to protect the flame and allow it to be seen, and gauze to assist the Davy in withstanding the strongest gas or draught. As far as experiments can be made out of a colliery, it is a complete success.

THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF A COUNTY MEMORIAL to the late Earl of Carlisle was laid, on Tuesday, on Bulmer-hill, near Castle Howard. The memorial takes the form of a Grecian column, which is to cost about £2000. Nearly the same amount has to be spent in erecting a memorial chapel attached to Castle Howard Rectory.

THE BANKS OF THE LAKE OF CONSTANCE are at the present moment covered with vast numbers of dead fish, the result of a malady prevailing among them. A similar epidemic recently prevailed in the waters of the Lake of Geneva.

LADY MILTON'S WEDDING RING was altogether the work of the noble bridegroom, being fashioned by his own hands from a nugget dug by him in British Columbia, during his visit to the gold-fields after his "North-west Passage by Land," the marvellous incidents of which he and Dr. Cheadle have so well narrated.

THE FRENCH have annexed six of the western provinces of Cochinchina. This, we are gravely informed, has been done with the unanimous consent of the people.

A FRIGHTFUL RAILWAY ACCIDENT happened at Bray Head, near Dublin, on Friday week. A train on the Wicklow Railway ran off the rails, and several carriages were precipitated over a deep chasm. Two persons were killed and a number of others severely injured. Some defect in the permanent way was the cause of the disaster.

IN JAVA the tiger has in one single year consumed exactly 148 human beings, and in another year 131. The crocodiles cleared an average of fifty people a year, while serpents accounted for between twenty-two and forty-three.

THERE IS EVERY PROSPECT of an excellent harvest in Southern Russia. The wheat crop especially is magnificent all along the coasts of the Sea of Azoff. From the state of the markets in Western Europe, higher prices and an increased exportation from the Black Sea ports are anticipated.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS has just directed a final dividend of 1s. 6d. in the £1, making 20s. in the £1, to be paid to the creditors of the Herefordshire Banking Company, and also interest to such of the creditors as are entitled to it, the holders of notes, according to the decision of the Court, not being among the number.

TABLE ROCK, NIAGARA FALLS, was successfully blown away from the main rock, on the 26th ult., by a second blast of powder, which removed what a first blast had left. Visitors can now reach the sheet of water at the base of the falls without danger from falling rock.

A RAT made its appearance one night last week in an aviary of Mr. Thomas Phillips, of March, in which were kept about thirty fine canaries, and, before its appetite was satisfied, it had killed (and partly eaten) about twenty-four. The thief was captured on the following day, and was duly executed, without further ceremony.

FOREIGN PRISONERS are alleged to have been marched naked through the streets of Queretaro. Lopez, the betrayer of Maximilian, had been arrested, at Oajaca, by the Governor, and ordered to be tried by court-martial for excesses committed by him whilst an Imperial officer.

M. CHARLES has laid before the Académie des Sciences two letters from Pascal to Robert Boyle, in which he states that the French philosopher lays down, in formal terms, the law of gravitation, hitherto universally supposed to be the discovery of Newton. Pascal died in 1662, and Newton did not make his great discovery until 1665.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made for importing articles from India to Russia via Suez and Trieste, instead of by the Cape of Good Hope, as hitherto. This new route will enable Indian goods to be sent to Russia in from two to three months less time than at present, and will therefore probably cause a large increase in these imports.

HER MAJESTY has been pleased to confer the honour of knighthood upon John I. Mantell, Esq., of the Middle Temple, late Chief Justice of her Majesty's Settlements on the Gambia. Sir John Mantell has served his country with distinction for twenty-seven years on the west coast of Africa, twenty years as Chief Justice, and seven years previously as law officer of the Crown.

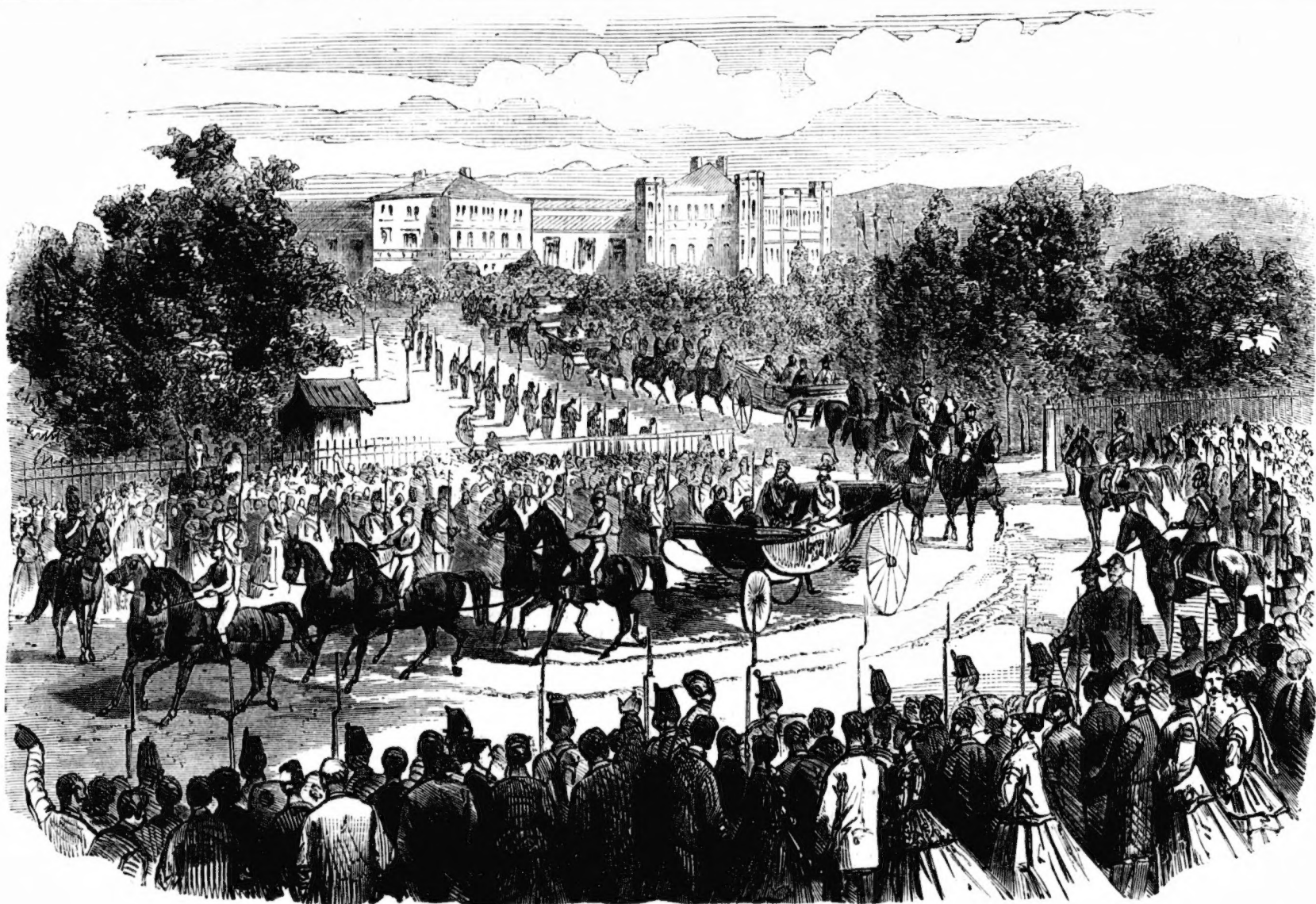
A SHOCKING ACCIDENT is reported from Malvern. Master Fred. Potter had gone there with his friends, and, when near St. Ann's Well, commenced running down the incline—a custom with tourists. He was unaware of a fearful chasm under him (a stone quarry), and fell over a mass of rock, a distance of 40 ft. His father (a solicitor) picked him up; but he was unconscious, and has since died.

WHEN THE REFORM BILL has finally passed, it is not improbable that General Peel will (says *Echoes from the Clubs*) again take office, and, having returned to Pall-mall, will commence, in good earnest, the greatly-needed War-Office reform, about which so much has been said and so little done. Lord Cranbourne has refused to rejoin the Ministry.

AUTHENTIC TIDINGS have arrived as to the safety of young Sir Hew Crawford, of Pollok, who has been missing for some months past. A letter, it is said, has been received by the family agent direct from the young gentleman himself from Texas, where he has been sojourning for some time past, having but recently heard of the death of his father. It is also said that he is on his way home, and that he may be expected at Pollok Castle at an early date.

THE OLD ELIZABETHAN RED-BRICK BUILDING in Doctors'-commons, known as *Heralds' College*, or the College of Arms, following the fate of the ecclesiastical courts, is now in course of demolition, to make way for the new street between the Mansion House and Blackfriars. Here was the Earl Marshal's office, once an important court, but latterly of little consequence. It was some time called the Court of Honour, and took cognisance of words supposed to reflect on the nobility.





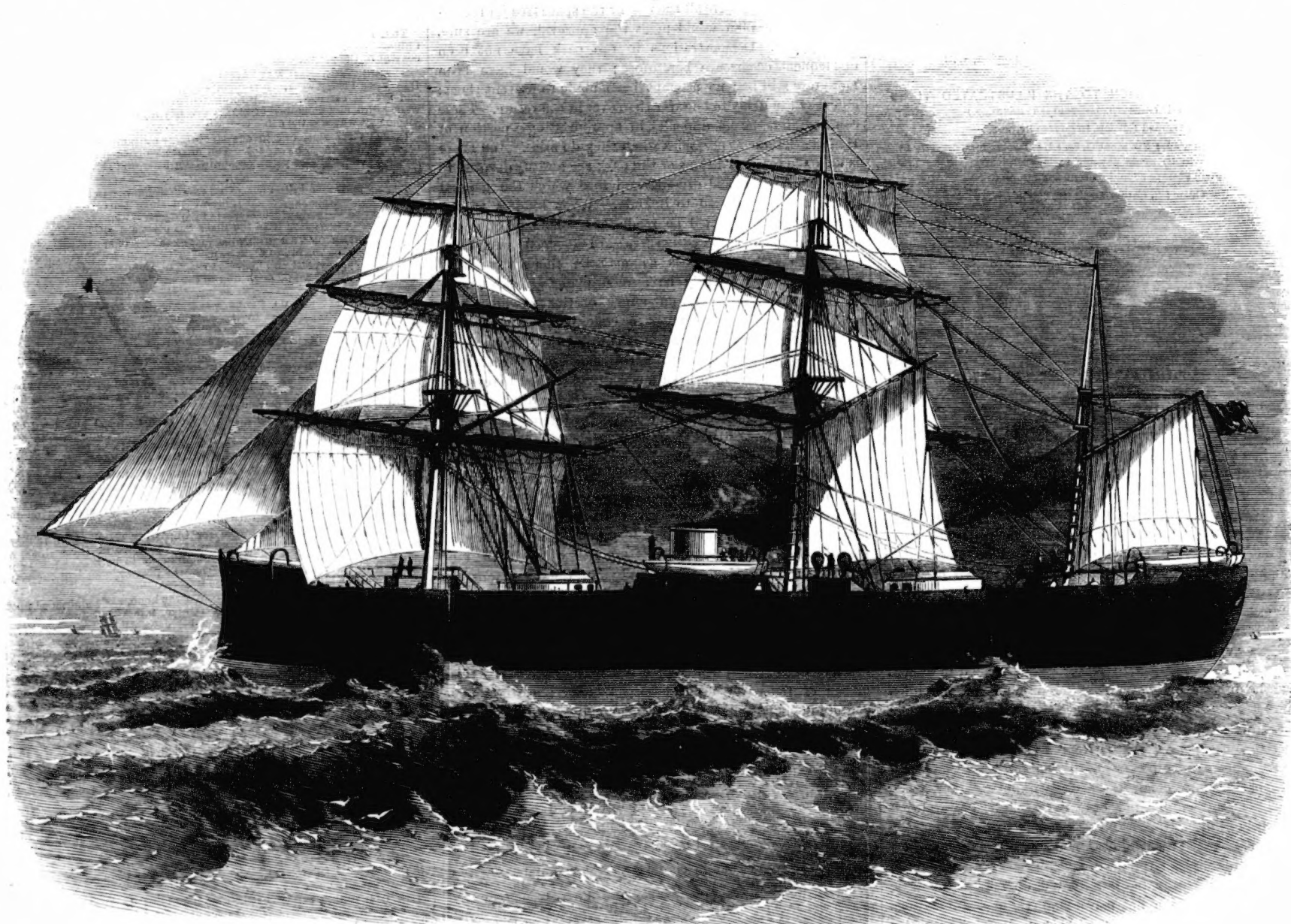
THE ARRIVAL OF THE SULTAN IN VIENNA ON JULY 27.

**THE SULTAN IN AUSTRIA.**

LIKE a comet the Sultan has blazed upon Europe, made a swift and brilliant circuit, and vanished, leaving a golden train behind him. He is at home at last, with leisure to think over all that he has seen, done, and suffered on behalf of those advanced ideas to which he has so readily professed his adhesion and the people of

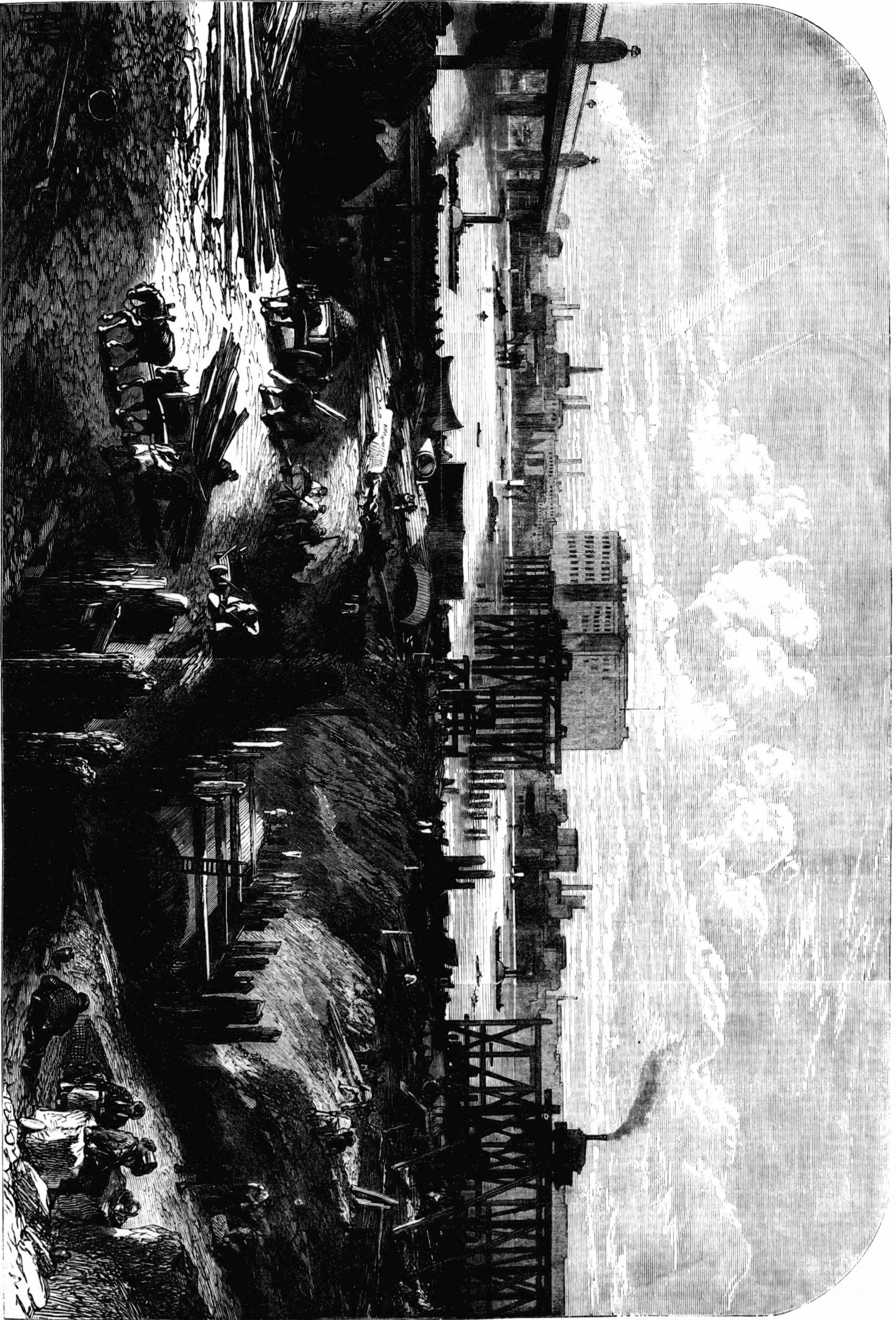
the countries he has visited also have time to wonder what effect the experiences of European travel will have upon the policy of the Government at Constantinople. It is probable that the last part of the journey was not the least suggestive to the mind of the Padiashah; for in Austria he must have seen much to remind him of the past history of his own nation, and of the strange alteration—

some say the declension—of the Osmanli character since the wild times when the horde of warriors that made the great Eastern empire went out, conquering and to conquer. At all events, the arrival of his Highness created vast excitement, not only in Vienna, which is a city of sightseers and holiday-makers, but throughout the empire. Excursions were organised in Upper and Lower Austria, Bohemia,



THE IRON-CLAD SHIP PRINZ HENDRICK, BUILT BY LAIRD BROTHERS FOR THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT.





THE WORKS AT WHITEHALL, OF THE PNEUMATIC RAILWAY FROM CHARING-CROSS, TO WATERLOO STATION.



Hungary, and Styria to visit the Kaiserstadt for the express purpose of seeing the ruler of Turkey, and at a time of year when Vienna is generally empty, 10,000 provincials, beside a host of foreign visitors, were added to the population. Strange times which can witness the reception, as an honoured guest, of the descendant of the man who battered at the walls of Vienna, and was answered with hot shot and enormous preparations for defence.

The Emperor received his august guest at the Westbahn Railway station, which was tastefully decorated with white and green hangings (the colours of the Prophet), banks and wreaths of rare plants and flowers, flags and shields. On stepping out of the state carriage, followed immediately by Fuad Pacha, who was immediately called on to interpret, the Sultan was met by Francis Joseph with outstretched hand; the Emperor saying, "I wish the Sultan to understand how truly glad I am to welcome him in my capital." These friendly words having been translated, and replied to by thanks from his Highness for so cordial a reception, the Emperor presented Doctors Zelinka and Giskra, the Mayor of Vienna and the President of the Lower House; each of whom offered a short congratulatory address. His Majesty then escorted the Sultan to Schönbrunn in an open carriage drawn by six magnificent horses. The Sultan occupied the place of honour, the Emperor sitting on the left, and the other two places being filled by the little, chubby, wistful-looking Prince and Fuad Pacha. Our Engraving represents the cortege leaving the railway station; and, although it was an early hour in the day, and people had to be up overnight to secure places, thousands of well-dressed people had congregated in the Marienplatz determined to see the first of the Grand Turk. The poorer classes were represented in tens of thousands; and, although the provincials had evidently expected a grand barbaric show, including the Saldanic executioner, with his bowstring of office, and a string of mysterious officers, followed by closed carriages filled with veiled figures representing his Majesty's harem, the vast crowd received the visitor with enthusiasm. The procession was, in truth, a plain affair enough; and the Padishah, instead of entering the city in all Oriental splendour, turned out to be a grave, quietly-dressed, middle-aged gentleman.

At Schönbrunn the Archdukes received him, after which he retired to his private apartments to rest from the fatigue of his long journey. The so-called Napoleon suite of apartments had been prepared and magnificently furnished for his especial use, the Imperial family occupying the rooms on the ground floor of the palace. The grave, fat little Prince, heir to the throne of Turkey, was put to bed in the room last occupied by the unfortunate Maximilian. It would be almost tedious to follow the Sultan in all the ceremonies prepared for him. The Court was in mourning, and so it must be left to the imagination to depict what might have been done had etiquette permitted. There were deputations to see, however, and all sorts of magnificent drudgery to undergo, and batteries of artillery to review on the Schmelz Parade, and the arsenal to visit, and the Prater to ride down amidst public regard, and the camp at Bruck to inspect; and, not by any means the last, a grand state visit to the opera, after a grand state dinner at Schönbrunn. Nothing could have been more superb as a spectacle than the review; and the country across the Schmelz, the valley of the Wien, and the buildings and wooded park of Schönbrunn, is one of the most beautiful landscapes in the world. The whole affair was superb; and many of the actors in it themselves contributed, by their gorgeous costumes, to the brilliancy of the scene—those who, like Count George Festetics, came out in all the glory of the national military dress—velvet doublet and cloak, lined with sables; scarlet breeches; high boots, with gold tops; velvet-furred bonnet, with eagle plume; curved scimitar, with jewelled belt and scabbard; gold trappings to the high-bred charger, and a saddle of leopard-skin, trimmed with green. It was well for the Sultan that he did not contend with these splendid officers, but was satisfied to appear, with the Emperor, in his usual plain dress, with one star—that of Leopold—shining on his breast.

On leaving, the Sultan embarked at the Kaisermülden, in the Prater, in one of the three steamers of the Austrian Lloyd's, which had been transformed into a floating garden of flowers and overshadowing trees. At night his Majesty reached Buda, where he was received at the palace next day; but he would not stay even to visit the tomb of Gnuł Baba, the Turkish saint. At four o'clock in the afternoon he re-embarked for his voyage down the Danube, to Rustchuk, whence he went by land, via Adrianople. Before leaving Vienna his Majesty made a donation of 10,000 florins to the poor of the city.

#### THE PRINZ HENDRICK.

THE PRINZ Hendrick iron-plated steam-ram, which sailed from the Mersey about a week ago, was built by Laird Brothers, of Birkenhead, for the Dutch Government. She was launched on Oct. 13, and was towed into the Alfred Dock, where she remained till recently, fitting up. She is barque-rigged, and is fitted with Captain Coles's tripod masts. She is 230 ft. long between perpendiculars, 229 ft. on the water-line, has 44 ft. beam, and is 26 ft. 6 in. deep. Her engines are 400-horse power, nominal, and about 2500 indicated, with which she attains a speed of 12·09 knots, upon a draught of 18 ft. of water. She is well coated with armour-plating from stem to stern, the plates amidships being 4½ in. in thickness. Her armament consists of four medium-calibre Armstrong guns, which are inclosed in two formidable revolving turrets, placed between the masts. When in action her bulwarks, which are on hinges, are thrown down, so as to give greater play to the guns; and the funnel, which is a sliding one, is lowered almost out of sight. Altogether, she is a most formidable-looking vessel, and does Messrs. Laird great credit, being equal, if not superior, to anything of her size in the British Navy.

#### PNEUMATIC RAILWAY FROM WATERLOO STATION TO CHARING-CROSS.

FEW of our readers, perhaps, are aware that a railway of a somewhat novel character is now in course of construction in the metropolis. This is the Waterloo and Whitehall Railway (from Waterloo station to Charing-cross), to be worked on the pneumatic principle, as exhibited at the Crystal Palace some year or so ago. The promoters of the undertaking state that "the pneumatic system, by which air is applied to railway propulsion, and the encumbrance of the locomotive is got rid of, differs materially from the former atmospheric system. Under the new system the train is wholly within a tube or covered way (through which it is rapidly propelled by the pressure of the air behind it), so that not only are all the difficulties attending the continuous valve and the consequent leakage avoided, but the advantage of working with greatly-reduced pressures and with proportionate economy is obtained. Thus, while the old system necessitated a pressure of from 120 oz. to 160 oz. per square inch to propel the train, under the new, a pressure of 3 oz. or 4 oz. per square inch is found sufficient. Indeed, in its present form, the pneumatic system is simply an adaptation of the process of sailing to railways, the wind being produced by steam-power and confined within the limits of a tube. This system, which the successful working of the lines of the Pneumatic Despatch Company and of the trial passenger railway at the Crystal Palace has proved to be of practical utility, it is now proposed to apply to the conveyance of the internal traffic of the metropolis, where it will be in aid of the metropolitan companies' lines.

"Its peculiar advantages over the locomotive system are:—First, the pneumatic tube, being smaller than the ordinary railway tunnel, the lines will occasion less interference with property and displacement of dwellings, and be constructed more expeditiously and at far less cost; while, being noiseless and free from vibration in operation, they may be introduced where a locomotive line would not be tolerated. Secondly, the dead weight of the locomotive being got rid of, the service will be more prompt, and therefore better suited for the working of a short local traffic; while, however frequent the despatches, there is no danger of collision, since two trains can never meet within the tube. Thirdly, steep inclines and sharp curves are readily and safely worked on the pneumatic system. The

line at Sydenham was purposely constructed with an incline of 1 in 15 (somewhat steeper than the worst part of Holborn-hill), and with curves of 8 chains radius, and was traversed with ease and regularity. Fourthly, from the absence of smoke, steam, and other objectionable accompaniments of the locomotive, and the complete ventilation of the tunnel by the continuous draught of air through it, the working is attended with perfect comfort to the passengers. Lastly, the working expenses and the cost of maintenance are less, the power being stationary; and the wear and tear of rolling stock and way reduced to a minimum.

"In view of these advantages, and of the facility which the new system affords for under-water communication, it is intended to unite, by a line of tube to be laid in the bed of the Thames, the north and south sides of the river between Charing-cross and Lambeth. The proposed line will commence at an open station to be formed in Great Scotland-yard, and be carried in brickwork under the Thames Embankment to the river, through and across which it will be continued in a watertight iron tube, encased in cement, and laid and fixed in a channel dredged out of the bed of the river. From the river the line will be continued in brickwork under College-street and Vine-street, to a station convenient for the traffic of the York-road and the Waterloo terminus of the South-Western Railway. The steepest gradient will be 1 in 30. The entire line will pass under streets and open spaces, and its construction will not involve the demolition of a single dwelling-house. The trains will be worked to and fro by pressure and exhaustion alternately, and at intervals of from three to four minutes from each end, a frequency of dispatch hitherto unattempted. The carriages will be as commodious, as well lighted, and as completely fitted for the comfort of the passenger as those of the Metropolitan Railway. The new railway will thus accommodate the endless streams of traffic passing over Waterloo, Hungerford, and Westminster Bridges, between Charing-cross on the north and the populous district of Lambeth and the Waterloo station on the south."

The total length of the line will be about five eighths of a mile one thousand feet of which will consist of iron tubes laid in the trough dredged out of the bed of the river. This trough will be of such a depth as to be completely beneath the bottom of the stream, and the railway will in consequence in no way interfere with the navigation of the river. The tubes, in four divisions of 250 ft. each, will be cased within and without with brickwork, and will be joined together in watertight bulkheads, resting on piers erected for the purpose. There will be three of these piers: one in the centre of the river and one about equidistant from that point and the shore on each side. The internal diameter of the iron tubes is 13 ft. 10 in., or, when lined with brick, 12 ft. 9 in. Externally, brick-coating included, they will measure about 16 ft. They are now being constructed by Messrs. Samuda, at their Poplar works, where they will receive their external coating, and then be floated up the river, and sunk in their places by means of water and other ballast. The engineers are Mr. Rammell, of Westminster, patentee of the pneumatic railway system, and Sir Charles Fox and Son; the tube will be constructed by Messrs. Samuda; while the laying of it and the other works have been undertaken by Messrs. T. Brassey and Co. Should success, as is not doubted, attend this undertaking, the railway will be a great public convenience, and will certainly afford all who travel by it for the first time a decidedly "new sensation."

THE HARVEST IN THE EAST.—The harvest may now be said to be becoming general in the eastern district. In the neighbourhood of Newmarket the corn crops of every sort are heavy, and they are expected to yield a full average. About Godmanchester the corn crops are promising, and all that is now required is fine and seasonable weather. Near Debenham (Suffolk) wheat is considered to be quite equal, if not superior, to an average; some pieces which in the spring were thought to be thin and inferior have now improved. Barley in this district cannot be called a good average crop. Peas are in many cases cut and carted, and will prove a fair yield; beans, if not equal to last year, must be called a good crop. Wheat has been cut in several places about Woodbridge (Suffolk); it appears to be barely an average crop in this neighbourhood; but recent rains, although they have retarded harvest operations considerably, have proved of great benefit. Barleys on poor, badly-farmed lands reflect the adverse influence of the severe spring, but on kindly, well-cultivated soils they look better.

A DOG'S FIDELITY.—A gentleman belonging to the staff at the Royal Victoria Hospital, at Netley, took a long walk in the neighbourhood of Southampton last week, accompanied by his dog, a fine Newfoundland. In the evening he missed some letters from his coat-pocket, and also his dog. The latter did not surprise him, as his dog often wandered from him in his walks. The next day the gentleman felt annoyed and puzzled at the loss of his letters, and he thought it possible he might have drawn them out of his pocket with his handkerchief during his previous day's walk. He resolved, therefore, to repeat the walk; for he might have dropped the letters in an unfrequented path, and they might be there still. About four miles from the hospital he came suddenly upon his dog lying on the ground, with the letters close by. The dog must have lain by the side of the letters for sixteen hours, including the whole night. The animal has been rechristened "Postmaster-General." An artist has sketched the postmaster-general guarding the letters.

THE LORDS AND COMMONS.—AMENDED FORMS OF PROCEDURE. Several amendments were recently made in the forms of procedure regulating the communications between the two Houses. The Lords always used to send messages by the masters-in-chancery, their attendants, and on special occasions by their assistants, the judges of the superior courts. The arrival of these messages necessarily caused an interruption to the debate. When the member then speaking had resumed his seat the sergeant-at-arms went to the table and announced "a message from the Lords." The Speaker had to put the question that the messengers be called in, and then they marched up to the table with three obeisances, and read the message or delivered the bills. They then returned with the same ceremonial. Now messages and bills are brought down from the Lords by Sir James Lefevre, the clerk of the Parliaments, in his wig and gown. When he is seen at the bar, Sir D. Le Marchant, chief clerk of the House of Commons, leaves his place at the table and takes the bills or message. Bills are sent to the Upper from the Lower House in the same way, with the exception of the Appropriation Bill, which is always taken by the Speaker himself. Until within the last two or three years the Lords would receive no bill or message unless it were brought by a deputation of eight members. A standing order of the Lords' lately declares:—"We never send to the Lower House by any members of our own; and add:—"But the Lower House never send unto us any but of their own body." These cumbersome formalities were swept away, and with them went the ordinary conference for receiving the reasons for disagreeing to the amendments—such reasons being quite as conveniently brought up by the chief clerk or the clerk of the Parliaments.—*Scotman*.

MR. PEABODY.—Since the return of Mr. Peabody from the United States he has spent his time in Ireland, following his favourite amusement of salmon-fishing. He has declined several invitations to the metropolis; and the flying visit we now record is one which he has been induced to make at the urgent solicitation of the committee of the exhibitors at the Working Men's Exhibition in Guildhall, in 1866. Mr. Peabody distributed the awards to the successful competitors, just on the eve of his departure for New York; and during his absence the working men have desired to commemorate the occasion by striking a medal in gold, as a present to their great benefactor. The opportunity was given last week, when Mr. Peabody came to London expressly to receive a deputation from the committee, at the Guildhall Hotel. Eight of them were present, and Mr. Peabody was accompanied by Sir B. S. Phillips, the late Lord Mayor, and Mr. Charles Reed, F.S.A. A brief address was presented with the medal, which was framed in a most elaborately worked ornamental mounting in brass in which the inscription on vellum was inserted. The whole of the work, engraving, embossing, and mounting was done by prize medalists, and every part was in most excellent taste and keeping. The frame was about 3 ft. by 2 ft. high. In accepting this gift, Mr. Peabody said that there was a time in his life when his prospects were very much less hopeful than any of the skilled artisans then before him. He counselled them to earnestness, integrity, and independence, and commended to them the example of many men who, from humble life, had risen to be great public benefactors. He stated that the museum built by him in Danvers, in Massachusetts, his native town, would contain an apartment in which would be deposited the portrait of the Queen of England, given by herself; and next to it would be placed the beautiful work of art presented to him by the working men of London that day. At the conclusion of lunch, Sir B. S. Phillips proposed the health of Mr. Peabody, who, in turn, paid a graceful compliment to the late Lord Mayor and the committee. The chairman proposed the health of Mr. Charles Reed, and, referring to the confidence the working classes had in him, Mr. Peabody was led to express a hope that the borough of Hackney, in which the late Dr. Andrew Reed's works of charity had been founded, would do itself honour in returning the son of so good a man as their first member of Parliament. Mr. Reed referred to the Peabody statue, for which £3000 has been subscribed, and the deputation then withdrew. Mr. Peabody left town for Scotland shortly afterwards.

#### THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

LORD DERBY offered to advise her Majesty to knight Mr. Edward Watkin for having promoted extensively railways in Canada; and at first he was disposed to accept the honour. But there arose some jealousies which I need not particularise; and, to relieve the Government from difficulty, Mr. Watkin promptly declined the offer. Knighthood cannot be of much value to a man like Mr. Watkin. Those vast achievements in Canada which he so energetically helped to carry out, will ever make him famous though he should remain to the day of his death plain Mr. Watkin, instead of Sir Edward; though, for my part, I am not disposed to sneer at the practice of conferring titles upon men like Mr. Watkin. It was said some years ago that a certain Chief Commissioner of Works was made a peer because he founded the Board of Works and cleaned out the lake in St. James's Park. And I suppose that this was true; for no other merits worthy of a peerage were discoverable in Sir Benjamin Hall. But were these achievements of Sir Benjamin comparable to those of a man who throws a railroad across a country, or, indeed, makes any road? Poor Waghorn, who opened up the overland route to India, deserved a peerage more than half the people who have been translated to the Upper House during the last thirty years.

There is in the House of Lords a bill entitled "The London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Arrangement Bill." The General Credit Company wishes to have a clause inserted in this bill to secure certain rights and remedies. To induce the Lords to listen to its claim it has circulated amongst the peers a printed document, in which I find the following extraordinary allegations, upon which I make no comment:—

On the 21st of February, 1866, the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company created a charge on their surplus lands in favour of the Imperial Mercantile Credit Company for £135,000, and the then solicitors of the railway company gave an undertaking in writing to the lenders that the lands charged were free from incumbrances.

On the very same day (Feb. 21, 1866), the railway company also created a charge on a portion of the same lands in favour of the General Credit Company, for £160,000, the whole of which sum was paid by the General Credit Company to the railway company, and the same solicitors gave a written undertaking to the General Credit Company in almost identical terms that the same property was free from incumbrances.

The same property was thus made the subject of two different loans obtained from two different companies on the same day.

The securities to the two companies were sealed by the railway company at the self-same board, and bear date on one and the same day (Feb. 21, 1866).

The transaction with the one company was concealed by the railway company from the knowledge of the other, and was only discovered on the Imperial Mercantile filing a bill in Chancery to enforce their security.

You will observe that the statement does not name the solicitors; nor will I. I may, however, say that a member of the firm sits in Parliament.

Mr. Poulett Scrope, the member for Stroud, has resigned his seat. He has represented Stroud since 1833. He is a moderate Liberal in politics, and, I believe, a man of some note among geologists. He resigns simply because he is old and wants retirement and ease. Mr. Robertson, M.P. for Hastings, is about to resign. He is a City merchant, and leaves Parliament because he is not so rich as he was. His firm, in the city, suffered severely from losses in the China trade. Mr. Chatterton, the Irish Attorney-General, is about to take a judgeship in Chancery under the new bill, and, of course, vacates his seat. Whether Sir Morton Peto intends to resign his seat for Bristol I have not heard. He is in this position—he may retain his seat for twelve months, and at the expiration of that time, unless the bankruptcy shall be superseded or the debts be paid, he must vacate his seat. In the mean time he cannot sit or vote.

It is settled and fixed that Parliament will rise on Tuesday next. It might and would have been prorogued on Saturday; but her Majesty refused to come to Windsor until Tuesday, and would not sign the commission at Osborne—why, neither I nor any other outsider knows.

When Sir John Pakington was First Lord of the Admiralty he, in the frankest manner, when pushed by Mr. Seely, confessed that the constitution of "the Admiralty" was bad, and must be reformed, and promised that he himself, next year, would bring forward a proposal to reform it. Fancy what a flutter there was in the old Admiralty dove-cots when this was read in the *Times*! "Reform! Ah! we know what that means—a clearing out," was the thought of the old fogies in their warm nests. "This must be looked to." And it was looked to. Sir John was moved to the War Office, and Mr. Corrie took the place, and thus the Government was relieved from the difficulty, for Corrie thinks the constitution is perfect, and will listen to no proposal for change.

I am sorry, Mr. Editor, to read in another place that "during the examination of candidates for ordination at the Wesleyan Conference, a pledge was required from those among them who had used tobacco to abstain altogether from the practice for the future. The Rev. J. H. Hargreaves, of New Brighton, it is added, 'declined to give such a pledge, and defended his position; but, after an animated discussion, it was resolved to defer his ordination for another year.' Now, Sir, in order that I might be sure of getting an unbiased opinion, I mentioned this to my esteemed friend Wogg (not Blogg, you know!) who neither smokes nor can endure smoking. Wogg's indignation was extreme; for he is the most tolerant of men. It looks, unhappily, rather ridiculous for a man whose functions are so awful and peculiar, to stand out upon a question of 'baccy,' and say, in effect, he won't be Heaven's ambassador unless he may keep a little luxury, to which he has been accustomed. 'But,' quoth Wogg, 'why should the 'Conference' place him in such an absurd dilemma?' I understand that the Conference also objects to ball and attending theatres; which is equally ridiculous. I do not like to find religious people guilty of such a *reductio ad absurdum* as the ball test or the 'baccy test.' These, Mr. Editor, are Wogg's sentiments, and I give you them for what they are worth.

May I ask, in the name of readers in general at the British Museum, why there are no lavatories there? Lavatories are provided at the Crystal Palace and the South Kensington Museum, though, as far as I am aware, at no other places of public resort except the Alhambra. But in connection with the reading-room of the museum, what can be more desirable? At South Kensington they charge a penny for a "sluicing;" but, if money is an object, I, for one, would rather pay sixpence for a good wash than not have it at the British Museum.

A morning contemporary, speaking of the Misses Webb, who came out, on Wednesday, at the Olympic Theatre, stated that their appearance had been delayed by the death of their agent, Mr. Brough. This may be true, but the deceased gentleman was the uncle of the well-known dramatic writer of the same name, Mr. William Brough, who is still alive and well.

#### THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

One of your contemporaries, Mr. Editor, in noticing the *Broadway*, said that the author of the little essay on American Poetry and Bryant had come to his conclusion without even referring to Walt Whitman. Now, the essay has no strong qualities of any kind; and I do not agree with its conclusion. It is simply what I said it was—"sensible and discriminating." But let us have the truth: Walt Whitman is referred to.

In reference to the same newspaper, let me have brief space, Sir, to notice another thing. Mr. Hollingshead had written rather sharp things about Mr. Buckingham (before his decease). Immediately the paper on which Mr. Buckingham had been a writer comes down upon Mr. Hollingshead with something sharp. Now, Sir, in the name of the dignity of literature, let us protest against the whole of this business, from first to last, wherever it occurs. Do, gentlemen, let us cultivate magnanimity and be above the meanness of retaliation. Let every one of us be able to say, on laying down his pen at last, "I have spoken specially kind words now and then of my friends; but I never condescended to retaliate, never allowed angry personal feeling to colour a line that I wrote."

Mr. Matthew Arnold's new volume will make his readers smile. In 1852 he published "Empedocles on Etna." In 1854 he withdrew the poem entirely, giving reasons. In 1855 he printed twelve pages



of it. In 1867 he reprints the whole, "at the request of a man of genius, whom it had the honour and the good-fortune to amuse and interest—Mr. Robert Browning." But Mr. Arnold must have very imperfectly read his critics if he has not seen more than one exposition addressed to him on the withdrawal of "Empedocles." And I should like to ask him two questions—Does he still hold, as he did in 1851, that poetry ought to "inspirit and rejoice the reader?" and does he think the volume just published by Macmillan (for which we all thank him cordially, and no one more than I) is calculated to "inspirit and rejoice" anybody? And perhaps Mr. Arnold will not slight the following criticism:—On page 116 of the new volume, referring to lines 5 to 12 inclusive, the subject touched is one which should have been touched more deeply or not at all. As it stands, the innuendo of the lines is simply shocking to anyone who has pages 184 to 204 of the volume of 1851 in his mind.

The *Hindspike*, an occasional magazine, contributed by members and friends of the 1st Middlesex Artillery Volunteers, is really worth a passing word. One doesn't want to be "invidious" in noticing a little spurt of a magazine like this, a mixture of animal spirits and kind feelings touched-up with cleverness; but it is impossible not to select for special praise "The Road March to Brighton," by John B. Monckton, and "Winifred the Winsome One," by Harry Lemon. The woodcuts are good, and the magazine is got up in the best taste.

#### THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

To the OLYMPIC THEATRE (adopting, for the nonce, the style of old Pepys), with the thermometer at fever heat, to see a drama new to this country and two young ladies who have arrived in England with no mean reputation from America. The drama chosen for the first appearance of the Sisters (Misses Emma and Ada) Webb, is called by Mr. Benjamin Webster, jun., the arranger of it, "The Grasshopper," and has, if I am correctly informed, undergone all sorts of wonderful changes since it first saw gas-light. Originally derived from a charming little novelette by Georges Sand, called "La Petite Fadette," which, by-the-by, must not be confounded with the French play of that name, it was subsequently turned into a German five-act drama. It was then taken from its German form and adapted for the American stage, under the title of "Fanchon the Cricket." "Fanchon" made some stir in America, and after being played all over the country, became more popular than ever under the auspices of the Sisters Webb. The Misses Emma and Ada have now come over to us, and Mr. B. Webster, jun., has turned their old play into "The Grasshopper" for them.

The most enthusiastic admirers of the Sisters Webb would hardly, I imagine, call "The Grasshopper" a good play. It is certainly not interesting; it is quite devoid of situation and point, and is very talky-talky and prosy as regards the dialogue. Had the acting on Wednesday night not been immeasurably superior to the play, the play must inevitably have failed signally. The principal character in it, that of Fanchon the Grasshopper, is played by the younger of the two sisters, Miss Ada Webb; and I cannot help thinking, in spite of many obvious defects, Miss Ada Webb a pretty little actress. Nature has dealt very kindly with her, and she seems bright, lively, and intelligent. As an actress, however, she is as yet raw and unfinished. She is too "skittish," if I may so speak. The character she has to play is wild and eccentric, it is true; but in the first and second act she jumps about too much—all arms and legs. The notion of her dancing with her shadow is pretty, but so overdone, or, rather, inartistically done, that it becomes ludicrous when it should continue pretty. There are, however, several charming little bits of acting in Miss Ada's impersonation of Fanchon. The coquettish scene on the bank with the young man who is eventually her lover was very sweet, and quite merited the applause it received. Miss Ada succeeds in coquetry and light fun, but fails in pathos. Her sister, Miss Emma Webb, a young lady who played *La Mère Fadet*, an old witch, also fails, and more so than her sister, in pathos. She has been trained in a very bad school, and once or twice the audience laughed outright at her transpontine bursts of melodramatic witchdom.

I am really glad to see Mr. John Clayton making such rapid strides in his profession. A year ago I should have laughed if anyone had hinted that he would ever act so well. The character of Landry Barbeau, a romantic, muscular, melodramatic lover, is not quite in Mr. Clayton's ordinary line; but really he played it so well that I am not quite sure I have made up my mind as to what his line really is. Picturesque, manly, easy, and confident, he carried everything before him, and made a pleasant and interesting character out of what might have been a tedious and repulsive one. Mr. Clayton speaks far more distinctly than he used to do; and I am honestly glad to find so painstaking an actor reaping the reward of his industry and energy. Mr. Horace Wigan played Father Barbeau, an unimportant part. I like to see that; and young actors would do well to take note that it is no discredit to them to follow Mr. Wigan's admirable example, so unselfishly set. I do hope that Mr. Dominick Murray is not going to get stagey and mannered. I have such pleasant memories of him in "Light and Shadow," years ago, that I trust I am not to be disappointed now. He played Beaucadet the other night in exactly the same manner as he played all those Princess's Irishmen (but without the brogue), and dressed a Breton farmer as a comic Irishman. Mr. Dominick Murray is always quaint, but I should like to see his quaintness take some new form. Miss Sheridan played Madelon, a minor part, and there was some unhappy allusions to her height, which should immediately be expunged. By-the-by, some repulsive puns have crept into the drama, and I need hardly say that they are in the worst possible taste.

I believe that Mr. Alfred Wigan has nearly completed his arrangements for the new ST. MARTIN'S-LANE THEATRE, and that he has engaged, among others, Miss Ellen Terry (Mrs. Watts), Miss Fanny Addison, Mr. Dominick Murray, Mr. Stephens, Mr. John Clayton, and Mr. F. Charles. Mr. Byron is to write a burlesque for the STRAND THEATRE again.

#### PARIS GOSSIP.

We all know how frightfully dear animal food has become of late years; and there exists a violent suspicion, both in Paris and in London, that the vaunted efficiency of the rule about open competition lowering prices is somehow neutralised by the confraternity of butchers. At any rate, an association was got up at Morbihan by a number of persons, and a moderate capital subscribed. They engaged a butcher and a clerk, and hired suitable premises. The shareholders, each in turn, accompany the butcher to the cattle-market, and so superintend the purchase of the animals; the clerk notes, according to a tariff, the prices the beasts are sold for, giving a ticket to the purchaser and keeping the counterfoil; so that servants cannot cheat their masters in collusion with the butcher. The meat is sold—beef, at an average of 1*l.* 5*s.* the kilogramme, or about 4*d.* a lb.; mutton is about 1*d.* a lb. higher, and veal not much more than half the price of beef. During the year 120,000 kilogrammes have been sold, and the shareholders divided 18 per cent. Could the example not be followed in London, where butcher's meat is so exorbitant in price? Of course, the results could only be obtained by people looking after the business themselves, instead of trusting to directors, a secretary, and a staff. *Vigilantibus, non dormientibus, &c.*

The *Courrier Français* has been mulct in 200*l.* for defaming the Cassagnacs, or the Graniers, as it calls them. This, substantially, is a justification of the libels, which, according to the maxim "The greater the truth the greater the libel," were certainly atrocious. The *Courrier* says it is satisfied; and well it may be; and the poor *Pays* is the very picture of defeat. But here comes in the *Rue*! Says a writer in that paper, "The Cassagnacs again raise their heads! We cast in their faces the expression of our indignation; and we tell them we have not M. Vermorel's kind of courage." Thereupon *riposte* Paul Cassagnac:—"We cast in your face the expression of our contempt; and if you have any form of courage, show it." I cannot say that these disgraceful brawls make much sen-

sation outside the newspaper offices; but they are significant of the manners of a certain class of journalists.

The annual meeting of the French Academy is to be held in a fortnight—M. de Falloux is to report on the prizes of virtue, and M. Villemain on those of literature. The Prince Imperial was present at the distribution of prizes the other day to the Lycée pupils at the Sorbonne. The Minister of Instruction emphatically told the students that this was a striking proof of the Emperor's confidence in them. M. Duruy has been very pertinently asked whether he fancied there was any danger of the Prince being mobbed, beaten, or perhaps murdered by these ingenious youths. But there is no limit to this sort of stupid adulation.

Sensation pieces "run" in Paris quite as long as at the Olympic or Adelphi, and pay, not as well, but a great deal better. The proceeds of 771 representations of four popular dramas—"La Belle Hélène," "Barbe Bleue," "La Vie Parisienne," and "La Grande Duchesse de Gerolstein," amounted to 2,555,800*l.*—more than £100,000.

The four volumes of Maximilian's works just published have had great success; the first edition was exhausted in a single day.

#### OBITUARY.

MRS. AUSTIN.—Mrs. Austin, widow of the late John Austin, well known as one of the most eminent professors of the science of jurisprudence whom this country has produced, expired on the 8th inst., at her residence at Weybridge, after an acute attack of a malady of the heart, with which she had long been afflicted. Mrs. Austin was descended from the Taylors of Norwich, a family which has in several generations produced men and women distinguished by literary and scientific ability. She was born in 1793, and she received in her father's house an education of more than common range. In 1820 she married Mr. John Austin, then a barrister on the Norfolk Circuit, and came to reside next door to Mr. Bentham and Mr. James Mill, in Queen-square, Westminster. Although that house could boast of none of the attractions of luxury, for the fortune of its owners was extremely small, it soon collected within its walls as remarkable an assemblage of persons as ever met in a London drawing-room. There might be seen—a dim and fitting figure of the past—Mr. Bentham and his two disciples, James and John Stuart Mill; the Grotes, the rising lawyers of that day, whose success has justified the promise of their dawn; Bickersteth, Erie, Romilly, and Senior; and all this wisdom and learning was enlivened in later years by the wit of Charles Butler, by the hearty sallies of Sydney Smith, by the polished eloquence of Jeffrey, by the courteous amenity of Lord Lansdowne, and by the varied resources of foreign visitors who found a home by Mrs. Austin's hearth. Mrs. Austin never aspired to original literary composition. Except in some of the prefaces to her translations, she disclaimed all right to address the public in her own person. She therefore devoted the singular power of her pen to reproduce in English many of the best contemporary works of German and French literature. Her translations from the German, more especially, were of the highest excellence; and, among these, her version of Ranke's "Popes of Rome" has been commended by the best judges as deserving to retain a place in English historical literature.

MISS SEDGWICK.—Miss Catharine Maria Sedgwick, whose writings years ago won for her a high reputation and attracted to her many warm personal friends, died, on July 31, at Roxbury, Mass., in the seventy-ninth year of her age. Forty-five years since her first book, entitled "New England Tale," was published, and two years later appeared "Redwood," which was reprinted in England, and was almost immediately translated into French, Swedish, and Italian. Her subsequent works were "Hope Leslie," or, Early Times in America, published in 1827; "Clarence," in 1830; "Le Bossu," in 1832; and "The Linwoods," in 1835. During the three years following appeared the "Poor Rich Man and Rich Poor Man," "Live and Let Live," "Means and Ends," "Home," and "Love-Fool for Children." In 1841 she published, on her return from Europe, a book of travel, entitled "Letters from Abroad to Kindred at Home," and in 1845 appeared "Milton Harvey and Other Tales." In 1857 these were followed by a novel of American society, under the title of "Married or Single," and in the following year she gave us a "Life of Joseph Curtis." Her success as a writer was assured at the first, and the many years which have followed her earliest venture in literary pursuits have only tended to enlarge the circle of her admirers. Her books have been read everywhere, by almost all classes of persons; and, while they have ever been attractive from the purity and grace of style, they have benefited and instructed those who have read them.

THE REV. JOSEPH BROWN, M.A.—On Tuesday, the Rev. Joseph Brown, M.A., Rector of Christ Church, Southwark, expired at Richmond, whither he had been removed on account of his failing health, which for some time past had been gradually declining. This announcement will be received with sorrow by all with whom the late gentleman was connected in his ministerial labours; indeed, by all to whom he was known, but with particular grief by the poor of the metropolis. His career was notable for a fruitful practice of the true principles of Christianity, especially for his ministrations and achievements in this wise among the lowly. Wherever he served he became emphatically pastor of his flock, giving and gaining a sympathy that was power. He was ordained in 1829, and first held a curacy at Sheffield. In 1833 he was presented by the late W. Wilberforce to St. Paul's, Mill-hill. Six years afterwards he was made Chaplain of the Government schools at Norwood, and was transferred thence by the Bishop of London to the incumbency of St. Matthias, Bethnal-green, in 1841. This was when his most valuable opportunity came. In that district, peopled by the very poor, an arduous work of charity was needed, and in him a worthy champion was found. From this time the distinguishing feature of his later ministrations became more noticeable, and his endeavours to benefit the poor soon obtained recognition. In 1849 the Bishop of Winchester presented him to the rectory of Christ Church, Blackfriars, which he filled till his death. He was the originator of "Homes for Servants out of Place," and of the "Albert Institution," Blackfriars (baths and wash-houses, &c.). When the late John Minter Morgan founded the Cholera Orphan Home, since called the "National," he invited the assistance of the Rev. Joseph Brown, who may properly be said to have practically created the institution. He was one of the earliest supporters of the "Friends of the Clergy," and of Lady Herbert's "Female Emigration Fund." But that which has specially endeared his name to multitudes was the part he bore in organising "rural parties" of the working classes and excursions of the poor from workhouses, schools, &c., into the country. More than a man, he helped to establish this beneficial custom. In politics he was a consistent follower of the late Sir Robert Peel. He was a firm friend and staunch servant of the Church of England, with an enlarged liberality to those who were not of her communion.

THE EARL OF MAYO.—The death of the Earl of Mayo took place on Tuesday, the 13th inst., after a protracted illness. His Lordship was born in 1797, and married, in 1820, Anne Charlotte, only daughter of John Jocelyn, Esq., and had issue seven sons and one daughter. The family honours devolve on Lord Nass, Chief Secretary for Ireland, who married, in 1848, Blanche, third daughter of Colonel Wyndham, of Petworth Park, Sussex, since created Lord Leconfield. The death of the Earl leaves a vacancy in the ranks of the Irish representative peers. His Lordship was a Tory, and there is little doubt that his successor in the House of Lords will be a Tory also. Lord Nass, of course, succeeds to the title, but not to the seat in the Upper House. The peers of Ireland will have to select a representative. The mode of election is somewhat curious. All the peers entitled to vote in the election of a representative send in their claims to vote to the Hanaper Office in Dublin. There the claim is examined, and, if allowed, a voting-paper is sent to the claimant, who must fill it up with the name of the peer for whom he votes, and return it by a certain day.

A MAD DOG.—On Tuesday morning, a rabid dog, of the Newfoundland breed, attacked a small dog near the Hatcham-road, Old Kent-road; and the latter, to escape, ran into a house close by, whither it was followed by its ferocious assailant, who again attacked it in a most savage manner. The occupier of the house, a female, feeling much alarmed, called to a labouring man at work close by, and the man tried to drive the dog from the place; but, failing to do so, left the house, upon which the dog, after having devoured nearly the whole of the small one, ran out of the house, with blood dripping from its mouth, and attacked the man, biting him severely in the arm and leg. The dog, with its eyes glaring wildly, then started off into the Old Kent-road where, after biting two other persons, it was killed by a police-constable.—On Wednesday morning, at an early hour, great alarm prevailed in the vicinity of Camberwell and Walworth, in consequence of a report that a large dog, apparently mad, was rushing about, and that it had bitten several persons. On inquiry it appeared that as Edward Simmonds, 58 P, was passing along Vicarage-road, Camberwell, he observed a large retriever dog running along, with a piece of chain attached to a strap which was round his neck, evidently as though he had broken away from where he had been fastened up. The constable contrived to seize the chain, but in doing so was severely bitten in the right arm. He, however, succeeded in fastening the animal to some railings, but the dog managed to slip his head from out of the strap or collar, and rushed along furiously to Myall's-grounds. There meeting Thomas Lovitt, of Camberwell, cabdriver, he flew at him and inflicted three bites in his left arm, and immediately after inflicted similar injuries upon Mr. Couzens, of Walworth, builder. Thence the dog dashed into Hill-street, Walworth, where John Wells, aged fifty-six, an engineer, was bitten in both arms. The four injured persons were taken to St. Thomas's Hospital, where their injuries were duly attended to. The dog next proceeded to the Walworth station of the London, Chatham, and Dover line, and, crossing the platform, got on the line, and at first proceeded in the direction of Herne-hill; but, although telegrams were sent to the various stations, nothing more was heard of the animal.

#### PROGRESS OF THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.

MR. BAZALGETTE, the engineer to the Metropolitan Board of Works, has made the following report on the progress of the works of the Thames Embankment:—

Contract No. 1, between Westminster and Waterloo Bridges.—The whole of the dams have been completed, and portions thereof have subsequently been removed from the works where sufficiently advanced for the purpose; 3262 ft. of the low-level sewer, 3244 ft. of the subway, 2925 ft. of the smaller sewer for intercepting the drains from the foreshore, and 284 ft. of the flushing culvert are also complete. About 320 ft. of the Westminster steam-boat pier and the face wall next the bridge, the main wall, the return wall, the screen and retaining walls, the steps, landings, pavings, &c., in connection therewith, are all in a very forward state of completion; 686 ft. of the adjoining river wall are complete, and a further length of 134 ft. has been brought to a height of 3 ft. above Trinity high-water mark; 100 ft. of the York-gate substructure are brought to a level of about 1 ft. above that mark; 260 ft. of the river wall adjoining are complete, and a further length of 463 ft. is constructed to a height of 3 ft. above Trinity datum; 45 ft. of the Charing-cross pier are brought to the same level, and excavating, concreting, and brickwork are proceeding within the dam for the completion of the remainder of this pier; 302 ft. of the river wall adjacent thereto are brought to heights varying from 1 ft. to 3 ft. above Trinity datum. The works to the Adelphi landing-stairs are brought to 1 ft. above, and 398 ft. of the river wall adjoining those works are brought to levels varying from 1 ft. below to 3 ft. above that mark. In connection with the Waterloo steam-boat pier works up to the junction with No. 2 Contract, the main, screen, return, and face walls are in progress, and the granite aprons are complete, the works generally being brought to levels varying from 1 ft. below to about 1 ft. above Trinity datum. Filling in behind the walls and in the works has been carried out to the extent of about 500,000 cubic yards. The Victoria and Regent streets sewer outlets, including the diversion of a portion of those sewers for the purposes of the Waterloo and Whitehall Railway Company, and the works of finishing their tube within the embankment are complete. Approximately, the cost of the whole of these works (including £19,000 advanced upon materials) amounts to about £394,200. Contract No. 2, between Waterloo Bridge and Temple Gardens.—The low-level sewer, subway, and small intercepting sewer are complete; the river wall is constructed to its full height, and the parapet is being formed thereon. The new Temple pier is also approaching completion, the upper portion only remaining to be constructed. The approximate value of the whole of the works completed (including £3256 for materials upon the ground) amounts to about £215,490. Contract No. 3.—The drawings for this proposed contract are completed. They comprise the formation of a viaduct from the eastern end of Inner Temple-gardens to Blackfriars Bridge, and will complete the line of embankment between Westminster and Blackfriars Bridges; but this section of the work awaits certain negotiations pending between the board, the Metropolitan District Railway Company, and the City Gasworks. This contract will embrace the formation of the roadway for its own length; but the roadway along the whole length of the embankment cannot be completed until after the construction of the Metropolitan District Railway, which for a considerable distance will be formed beneath its surface. Southern Embankment.—A length of about 2570 ft. of the dam and 2876 ft. of the staging is complete, and in the construction of which about 237,000 cubic feet of timber, 13,000 cubic yards of clay puddle, and 185 tons of iron have been used. Within the dam, about 240 ft. in length of the river-wall have been brought to a level of 1 ft. below, and 2090 ft. of the wall to levels varying from 1 ft. to 7 ft. above Trinity high-water mark. For the construction of this wall, about 87,000 cubic yards of earth have been excavated, 30,000 yards filled in, 22,000 yards of concrete deposited, 580 yards of brickwork laid, and 123,000 cubic feet of stone bedded. The total approximate value of the work done is £107,000.

#### HAY FEVER.

In Great Britain the haymaking season often commences, in the south, in the early part of May; towards the north, it is July before the grass is cut; and in the Yorkshire wold districts and Scotland, the 12th of August sometimes sees the haymaking unfinished. Practically speaking, the aroma of new hay pervades the country for the best part of four months in the year. There are few of us who are not acquainted with at least one or two persons who suffer grievously from what is known as hay fever. To them the summer is a protracted period of torment, spent in flying about from point to point, as the haymaking threatens to pursue or surround them. They take refuge sometimes in yachts, but mostly by the seaside, where, nevertheless, an inland breeze, sweet as it may be to other noses, comes to them only as a malignant blast of the enemy. These unlucky people seem as if they were for ever catching violent feverish colds; they are perpetually weeping and sneezing, restless, ill at ease, and generally uncomfortable. This continues with more or less severity, sometimes only for two or three weeks, until the smell of the hay has quite gone; sometimes for nearly the whole summer, without any apparent reason, but leaving the patient weak, exhausted, and out of sorts. The cause is commonly supposed to be the emanations which are given out by certain flowering grasses, and the kind of pungent vegetable powder suspended in the air when these grasses are cut, dried in the sun, and tossed about in order to turn them into hay. Others suggest that it is due to the benzoic acid which is extracted from some grasses by the solar heat. It appears certain that the well-to-do and sedate classes are much more subject to the attacks than the poorer classes and outdoor labourers who, from their hardy habits, and probably from the more frequent and active action of the skin, are almost entirely exempt from them. The subject has been written on lately by several medical men—Dr. Abbotts Smith, Pirrie, and others. The last-named gentleman is inclined to believe that there are two distinct maladies which are commonly confounded with each other. The first, or genuine hay fever, is a purely spasmodic affection, a kind of asthmatic seizure occurring in certain constitutions, and arising really from the inhalation of pungent vegetable odours. It is characterised by every symptom of a violent and distressing cold, but makes its appearance at a time when ordinary catarrh or bronchitis is rare. In the other kind these features also exist; but they are subordinate to others in addition of a more serious class. The scalp is hot, the head and spine ache, there is intolerance of light and heat, great general languor and prostration, a good deal of fever in the evening, and sometimes a teasing cough. It is suggested that the last kind, though called hay fever, and occurring in the hay season, is not genuine hay fever, and has nothing to do with it, but that it is in fact sun fever, arising from the effects of solar heat, and has been confounded with the other simply because hot weather is also the time for making hay, and both, therefore, appear at the same season. In support of this view the following reasons are advanced:—That persons are attacked by it when at sea, where, obviously, vegetable odours could not reach them; that its duration on shore begins with the hot weather and outlasts the haymaking season, and is, indeed, always more protracted than hay fever. The patients always themselves refer it to exposure to solar heat, and invariably complain of a special train of symptoms—as spinal tenderness, sleeplessness, headache, &c., not present in common hay fever. They also, of their own accord, shun the sun and all strong light, and gladly retire to a darkened room and a cooler atmosphere. Moreover, it does not yield to the ordinary treatment of hay asthma, such as sedatives, antispasmodics, medicated vapours, but rather requires nerving support, tonics, cold sponging, &c., the disease being, in fact, in the cerebro-spinal and nervous systems. Of these maladies, both so troublesome and one somewhat serious, neither appears to be hereditary, but constitutional or idiopathic.—*Full Mail Gazette.*

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—The directors of the Royal Insurance Company rendered their annual report to the shareholders on the 9th inst., which showed the fire premiums for the year 1866 to have attained the large sum of £447,271. The details of the report further disclosed a rapidity of growth almost unequalled, the fire revenue having increased nearly 50 per cent since 1862, at which time the fire premiums had just attained the sum of £300,000. While, in common with the experience of most kindred institutions, the losses in the past year were heavy, the directors were yet enabled from the large amount of undivided profits retained in hand at the last meeting to declare the usual dividend and bonus of 7*s.* a share, without in any way interfering with their ample reserve fund. The first six months of the current year's fire transactions appear to have been very successful, for the directors report a net profit during this period of £40,000 on the fire branch. The life branch exhibits its usual elasticity, policies to the amount of £1,748,571 having been effected in the last two years, while the accumulated life funds were increased in the same period by investments amounting to £227,311, and have now attained the large total of £899,746.

FACTS ABOUT CRIME.—Some interesting facts and figures about crime in England and Wales have just been published in the thick bluebook of judicial statistics for 1866. Compared with the previous year, the serious offences show a gratifying decrease, while, probably on account of more frequent application of summary jurisdiction, the minor offences disposed of by magistrates show an increase. We learn that we have 23,728 policemen, who cost us £1,827,105; being 478 constables and £78,647 more than the year before. The criminal classes "at large" are set down at 113,666; but of these 33,191 are of the tramp and vagrant fraternity. Those not at large are 16,708 in local prisons, 7018 in convict establishments, and 2635 in reformatories. In England and Wales there are 20,349 houses of bad character. During the year there were 50,543 indictable offences, in respect of which 27,190 persons were apprehended and committed. The murders numbered 121, being four less than the total of 1865. The attempts to murder were 45, and there were 679 cases of shooting, stabbing, &c.; 259 cases of manslaughter, 8 of attempts to procure miscarriage, 211 of concealment of birth, 155 of unnatural offences, 257 of rape, 332 of assaults with intent, &c., 972 of assaults and bodily harm, 207 of common assault, and 164 of assaults on "peace officers." There were 481,770 persons proceeded against summarily, and of these more than one fourth were discharged.



# HE ANDAMAN ISLANDERS.

THE Andaman Islands form a group in the Bay of Bengal, consisting of four islands with several islets, in 92 deg. 30 min. E. longitude, and occupying a space which extends from 10 deg. 32 min. to 13 deg. 40 min. N. latitude. Three of these islands are so contiguous, being only separated by very narrow straits, that they are usually considered as one island, under the name of the Great Andaman, and are generally so laid down in the maps. Another of these islands, which is known as the Little Andaman, is the most southern of the group. Rutland Islet lies between the two Andamans, and Great Sentinel Islet is on the western side of Great Andaman, in 11 deg. 45 min. N. latitude, and 92 deg. 3 min. E. longitude. The remaining islets are not named. The most northern of the Nicobar islands is within thirty leagues of the south of Little Andaman.

Great Andaman is about 140 miles long and 20 miles broad. In the centre is a high mountain called the Saddle Peak, which is about 2400 ft. above the level of the sea. The island does not contain any considerable river. It is tolerably clothed with trees, several of which afford timber of large size. Among them are the poplar, ebony, a tree resembling satin-wood, redwood, the cotton-tree, and almond-tree; besides bamboos, ground-rattans, and numerous shrubs.

The inhabitants are among the very lowest in the scale of civilisation of any people with which we are acquainted. They show determined hostility to Europeans, and repugnance to come into communication with them.

They are small in stature, seldom exceeding 5 ft. in height, and ill-formed, with large heads and very slender limbs. In colour, hair, and features they resemble the race of African negroes. They are wholly unaccustomed to the use of clothing; their implements are but few in number, and of a very rude description. They have no vessel that can resist the action of fire, their only mode of cooking consists in throwing their food upon burning wood. Their principal weapons of offence are

bows and arrows. The former are usually from 4 ft. to 5 ft. long, and for strings they use fibres drawn from the leaf of a tree, or slips of bamboo; their arrows are formed of reeds, with heads of wood hardened in the fire, or of fish-bones. They also carry spears of heavy wood, with sharpened points, and are provided with a shield made of bark. They use both their arrows and their spears for killing fish, and show considerable dexterity in this occupation;

greatest resemblance in their persons and dispositions are the mop-headed Papuas of New Guinea; but how they should have found their way to so great a distance in their frail canoes is difficult to imagine. The language used by the Andamaners, so far as there are means of judging, appears to be wholly dissimilar to any spoken in other parts of the East.

A settlement was attempted by the English, in 1791, on the south

they likewise make use of a hand-net formed of bark.

The dwellings of the natives are rude in the extreme; they are formed by fixing four poles in the ground and binding their tops together, filling up the spaces between them with branches of trees, and leaving a vacancy on one side just large enough to allow of ingress and egress. In their disposition they are described as cunning and treacherous; their disinclination to the intercourse of strangers amounts with them to a passion. They make no attempt to cultivate the soil, and are obliged to reside in the immediate neighbourhood of the sea, from which they derive the principal part of their food. The population of the Andamans is very scanty; they unite in small societies, and move about from one part of the coast to another in search of food. The people are superstitious, and are believed to worship the sun; but our imperfect acquaintance with their customs does not allow us to express any decided opinions on this subject. On awaking in the morning, their first care is to plaster their bodies with mud, which hardens in the sun, and serves as a protection against the attacks of insects which swarm in the air, and would otherwise be a constant torment to them. This plastering, and the custom of painting their woolly heads with red ochre, does not tend to improve their naturally hideous appearance.

The origin of this race of people—so different in their appearance and state of civilisation from any of the races on the continent, or the neighbouring islands—is an object of some curiosity. The people to whom they bear the



CHILDREN OF ANDAMAN ISLANDERS.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MESSRS. SACHE AND WAKEFIELD, OF CALCUTTA.)



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS-MANUFACTURES IN THE MOROCCO AND TUNIS SECTION OF THE PARIS EXHIBITION.





LIBERATION OF DEBTORS FROM CLICHY PRISON, PARIS.

part of the largest island, which settlement was, two years afterwards, removed to Fort Cornwallis, near the northern end, in 13 deg. 28 min. north latitude and 92 deg. 54 min. east longitude. One object for making this establishment was the possession of a commodious harbour on the east side of the Bay of Bengal, which might be a place of shelter during the prevalence of the north-east monsoon. The place was abandoned, in 1796, in consequence of its proving extremely prejudicial to the health of the settlers.

Port Blair, on these islands, was selected, in 1858, as a penal settlement for the sepoy rebels. The natives invariably murder the crews of all vessels that happen to fall into their power; and the people of the Little Andaman having, in April last, so acted towards the crew of a ship named the Assam Valley, an expedition was

sent by the Indian Government to punish the savages for the crime. This expedition consisted of the ship Arracan and a party of soldiers, and was under the command of Captain Barron. The Arracan proceeded to the place where a sailor's hat and part of his dress were seen on the rocks, when the whole party landed, with some difficulty, owing to the violent surf. As they stepped on shore they were met by a volley of arrows. The greatest forbearance was inculcated on our men. They were not to fire except in self-defence, and until all hope of a peaceful negotiation with the natives was at an end. Notwithstanding this friendly intention, and the forbearance of the Europeans, the arrows from the savages kept flying thickly among our soldiers, and some got wounded. The men were then told to defend themselves with their arms, when some of the more

active and prominent of the Andamanese were knocked over. The natives then got into pits in the sand, or hid behind trees, while our people commenced a search for the missing ones. Soon a long line of graves was found. The bodies were buried in a curved line, the head of one man touching the feet of another, and the face of each person was just visible on the surface of the ground. There were eight bodies thus found, and no doubt they were the eight unfortunate men belonging to the Assam Valley. Parts of their dress were brought away for identification. Of course, the sight of the faces of the dead bodies naturally roused the indignant anger of the troops. Wherever any of the savages were seen a rifle-bullet went in among them. But no attempt was made to chase or pursue them. Some twenty or thirty of the savages were killed or wounded.



A MEXICAN COCKFIGHT.



## THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

WE have already devoted some space to descriptions of those Oriental buildings, and the display of the various arts and manufactures of the East, which form so attractive a feature of the Paris Exhibition. Our engraving this week represents the Courts of Morocco and Tunis in the gallery of arts and manufactures of the Palace itself—and a remarkable section it is, not so much in consequence of the articles exhibited, as from the characteristic style of form and ornamentation adopted in the arches and recesses of the Courts. In truth, the actual display of the manufactures of Morocco and Tunis is but scanty. There are, of course, varieties of those metallic-looking shawls and hangings, of filigree jewellery, splendid leather-work, cork and other woods, pottery and weapons; but they are scarcely commensurate with the space and the elaborate ornamentation of the section devoted to their reception, which is in itself the best possible exhibition of Moroccan and Tunisian art.

## ABOLITION OF IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT IN FRANCE.

By one of the sublime legal fictions which have contrived to defy the statutes "made and provided," a man may still be kept incarcerated for debt in England until he is ruined in mind, body, and estate. They have now, however, begun to see the absurdity of this in France, and a man's whole life is no longer to be blighted because he cannot pay his debts. On the 24th of July, at a little after midnight, the doors of the prison in the Rue Clichy were thrown open, and the prisoners for debt came out from beneath the dim portal. It was a strange sight, and not without its sentimental side: for wife and husband met there under the stars, and children seized the portmanteaus and carpet bags from the hands of released parents; and men who had almost feared they might never see home more, found flames waiting for them to convey them to the well-known rooms, lighted and garnished for the returning prodigal, who had his fill of hugs amongst the swine. Some of the inmates, looking irresolutely round and clutching their bundles under their arms, scarcely knew which way to turn; they had never had many close friends—only boon companions, who left them at the door of Clichy, as though they had attended their funerals, and straightway forgot them. These poor fellows were almost fain to turn back again and beg a lodging of the *huissier* in some now empty room of the place. But at least there were the stars overhead, and there were bright lights in the boulevard, and the sound of talking, and wooden benches in the fresh, free air; so they crept away, brother victims of the iniquitous law, which is abolished in Paris, but still stands hard and fast in London.

## A MEXICAN COCKFIGHT.

COCKFIGHTING, which, after long being a favourite sport in England, was transported to America, where it was, no doubt, already practised by the native Mexican or Peruvian Indians with some of the tame birds of the country. In Java, China, and Japan this sport has been practised time out of mind; and even in our own country it survives, in spite of legal prohibitions and the vigilance of the police. The patrons of the sport declare that the birds will fight; "it is their nature to;" and that there is nothing cruel in enabling them to carry out their instincts in a systematic manner by making their contests a matter for amusement. The Mexican sportsmen—seedy, dirty, heavy-hatted, muffled vagabonds as they are—would probably disdain any philosophical excuse. They meet not only for sport, but to indulge in their most ardent pleasure, that of gambling. The cockpit of Chihuahua is a real circle of adobe, or sun-dried brick, and the seedy sportsmen bring their favourite birds—ragged, villainous-looking bipeds, like themselves, and with none of the trim, sleek gentility of the English gamecock—and pit them against each other for all the money that they have been able to beg, borrow, or steal for a week before. The sport, which, when our sketch was taken, was held in January, takes place in a building devoted to the purpose; for at Chihuahua cockfighting is an institution, and the weather in that month is cold enough to cause the owners of the birds to assume those ample, but often ragged and greasy, cloaks which give the lower class of Mexicans so mysteriously rufianly an appearance to European eyes.

## REPORT OF THE POOR-LAW BOARD

THE annual report of the Poor-Law Board, just issued, shows that the expenditure for the relief of the poor of England and Wales in the year ending at Lady Day, 1866, amounted to £6,439,515, an increase of 2·8 per cent over the expenditure for the preceding year, and raising the expenditure to 6s. 1½d. per head of the population. The increase was mainly in the southern half of the kingdom. The net annual value of rateable property was £93,638,403; ten years previously it was but £71,840,271. The population in the year under review is estimated at £21,100,000. The mean number of paupers at one time in receipt of relief in England and Wales was 916,152—137,776 indoor and 783,376 outdoor; the whole number being 35,747 fewer than in the preceding year, and 4·3 per cent on the population. The mean number of adult able-bodied paupers (exclusive of vagrants) at one time in receipt of relief was 145,823, being 14,701 fewer than in the previous year. Returns carried to a later date show that on Jan. 1, 1867, the number of persons in receipt of relief from the rates was 4·2 per cent greater than on Jan. 1, 1866, and of adult able-bodied paupers 6 per cent greater. In the metropolis there was at Michaelmas, 1866, an increase of 16·3 per cent in the number of paupers as compared with the corresponding period of 1865, and of 19·5 per cent at Christmas; and in the east districts these increases were no less than 27 per cent and 37·6 per cent. This was in a great measure attributable to the convulsions of trade in 1866, and which in Poplar and various parishes bordering on the Thames produced so much distress among the labouring classes connected with shipbuilding and the shipping trade generally. The number of casual paupers relieved in the vagrant wards in the metropolitan district in January, 1867, was no less than 48,427, an increase of 12,931 over the number in January, 1866. Complaints of the increase of vagrancy are general throughout the country, and memorials have been received from various parts asking for the adoption of measures to discourage the mere vagrant or mendicant, and at the same time to enable guardians to administer better relief to wayfarers in search of work. The annual sum now expended for the relief of the poor exceeds what it was when the Poor Law Amendment Act was passed in 1834, but the increase of our numbers has reduced the rate per head on the population from 8s. 9½d. to 6s. 1½d., and, considering also the increase of wealth, there can be no doubt that the pressure of the burden on the ratepayers is considerably less than it was in 1834. The report gives an account of the official inquiries recently made respecting the condition of metropolitan workhouse infirmaries and sick-wards, and the proper limit to the number of beds in them; the board have much satisfaction in stating that the communications which in consequence of these investigations they had to address to the guardians met generally with favourable consideration, and that much has been done to improve the arrangements for the treatment and care of the sick, so far as the existing accommodation admitted of it. But it appeared to the board that further legislation was required with a view to the better care of the sick poor, of lunatics, and of children, and that the charges necessary for this purpose might reasonably be thrown upon a fund contributed by the metropolis generally. Accordingly, the bill of this Session was laid before Parliament, and was with some modifications passed. The board have already taken steps to bring the provisions of this measure into operation, and state that at the time of preparing this report (in May) they were engaged in completing the necessary arrangements to effect a result as generally satisfactory and beneficial as possible.

**GREAT FIRE IN NEWCASTLE.**—On Sunday a very destructive fire broke out at Newcastle. It commenced in a chimney of the Central Exchange Hotel, Grey-street, about three in the afternoon; and after the servants had made ineffectual efforts for four hours to extinguish it without any satisfactory progress having been made, it was thought advisable to summon the police. The loss of valuable time was fatal, for the hotel was involved in ruin, and a great number of shops and houses adjacent, comprising a triangular block, were much injured. The damage done is said to be under estimated at £70,000, a considerable portion of which is covered by insurance.

**DISCOVERY OF A NEW COAL BED IN NOTTS.**—For some months past borings for coal have been carried on at the estate of Sir Robert J. Clifton (late M.P. for Nottingham), at Clifton, about four miles from that town, it being the impression of the hon. Baronet that the valuable mineral was to be found under his estate. It was the opinion of many geologists that coal could not be found in that neighbourhood except at a very great depth. They considered that it was cut off by what is called the Great Notts and D. Ruyshire Fault. On Friday week, however, the borings proved successful, and a bed of coal, quite 5 ft. in thickness and of excellent quality, was found 200 yards beneath the surface. There is also reason to believe that there are beds of ironstone in this locality.

## THE RAINFALL AND THE METROPOLITAN MAIN-DRAINAGE SYSTEM.

AT last week's meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works, Mr. Bazalgette, the chief engineer, presented the following report on the main-drainage system and the recent heavy rainfall:—

An extraordinary rainfall, such as has not been recorded in London for the last twenty years, and stated in the Registrar-General's return of July 27 to have been "unprecedented," at the Greenwich Observatory, fell between midnight on July 25 and nine o'clock on the following morning. During these nine hours 1 in. of rain fell—not, like a thunderstorm, confined to a portion of the metropolis only, but a uniform downfall extending over the whole of the metropolitan area and the surrounding country. Thus one eighth of the average rainfall of a whole year fell in nine hours, or nearly one thousandth part of a year, one quarter of the year's rain having fallen during the month of July.

In preparing the scheme for the main drainage of the metropolis it was anticipated that the low-level district of London would be very considerably relieved of the flooding, which had previously produced such disastrous destruction of property during heavy rains; and those expectations have been fully realised. It was not, however, contemplated by the intercepting sewers to carry off all the flood waters produced by extraordinary rainfalls. The reports of the eminent engineers who have considered this subject, and my own, commencing in 1864, are numerous and very explicit on this subject. They propose, in addition to the sewerage, to carry off by the intercepting sewers one quarter of an inch of rain in twenty-four hours. They give an average of the number of days per annum upon which such rainfalls have occurred, and explain the manner in which it is proposed to deal with exceptional rain-storms, and how impossible it would be by works of reasonable magnitude and cost to carry off and pump through the intercepting system such exceptional storms as fell on July 26, and which within nine hours deluged London with 26,000,000 tons of water. Such a rainfall may not within the present generation again occur. In spite of the relief afforded by the new intercepting sewers and the provision made for the escape of storm waters, there were on July 25 some exceptional instances of the flooding of property in the low-level districts on the south side of the Thames.

The houses of the lower portions of the south side are built within a basin, the rim of which is the River Thames, and at high water the river is 6 ft. or 7 ft. higher than the streets, and 12 ft. higher than the basements of the houses, therefore no water can run by gravitation out of their sewers until the tide has fallen. The pumps and intercepting sewers relieve these districts by the constant removal of as much rain as they were designed to carry off. The surplus can escape into the river through the storm outlets only when the tide is low.

On July 26 the tide was rising as the storm fell, and the accumulated reservoir space of the district sewers not being sufficient to store the surplus water of that extraordinary rainfall until they could get relief, the floor rose above the level of some of the lowest basements. The protection of the low-level districts against such casualties rests to a large extent in the hands of the local authorities, and it is their duty to provide—1. That new houses shall not be allowed to have basements so much below the level of the river that they cannot be properly drained. 2. That the private drains of all such houses as have low basements shall be protected by flood valves. 3. That all sewers to be constructed in such localities shall be of sufficient capacity to store the flood waters during the time the tide is above the outlets. A very large proportion of the houses in Battersea and other localities, with respect to which complaint is now made that they were flooded on July 26, have been built since the levels of the main-drainage sewers were determined upon, or commenced at so low a level that they cannot be properly drained, nor have any precautions been taken in forming their drains to protect their basements against floods. Several properties have also been flooded by defects in their own drains or by other local causes having no reference to the general system of drainage. There are about eighty miles of new intercepting sewers, and upwards of 2000 miles of local or branch sewers; it is to these branch sewers, therefore, that we must look for the storage of about nineteen twentieths of the waters of extraordinary floods during the periods of high tide. Now, these sewers have not been formed upon a complete and comprehensive plan, but they have been the growth of ages, constructed from time to time to meet local wants, and many of them are still very defective. They are continually being added to, improved, and deepened by the Metropolitan Board, the vestries, and the district boards, and, in proportion as these improvements progress, so will the probabilities of the flooding of the low-level districts decrease. It cannot, however, be too forcibly urged that there is a limit to the depth to which it is possible within a reasonable cost to drain, and this limit has in many instances been exceeded.

The intercepting sewers have more than answered the original expectations with respect to them; their soundness and efficiency can scarcely again be more severely tested than on the 26th of July last; the pumps were that day lifting a volume of water equal to nearly half an inch of rain over the whole of the low-level area, nearly double the quantity they were intended to lift, and without even such partial failure or accident as might, in a work of such magnitude and under so severe a test, have been fairly expected. I submit herewith several claims for compensation and other communications with respect to the flooding of property by the rain-storm of July 26, and I recommend that the report be printed, and a copy thereof sent in reply to each of the communications on the subject, and that the claimants for compensation be informed that this board denies its liability to make compensation.

On the question of how to dispose of the rainfall, Mr. Bazalgette stated that it was a question of considerable difficulty, and had given rise to much diversity of opinion. That arose from the fact that, whilst it was in itself harmless and even advantageous to the river, it sometimes fell suddenly, in large quantities. Those considerations had induced theorists to advocate that the rainfall should not be allowed to flow off with the sewage, but should be dealt with by a separate system of sewers. This he thought most impracticable, as it would involve a double set of drains to every house, and the construction and maintenance of a second series of sewers to every street. Applied to London, it would involve the re-draining of every house and every street in the metropolis; and, according to a moderate estimate, it would lead to an expenditure of from ten to twelve millions of money, while the interference with private property alone would render such a proposition intolerable. In 1858 a report was published by Mr. Bidder, Mr. Hawksly, and himself, which stated that their observations distinctly established the fact that the quantity of rain which flowed off by the sewers was in all cases much less than the quantity which fell on the ground; and, although the variations of atmospheric phenomena are far too great to allow any philosophical proportions to be established between the rainfall and the sewer flow, yet they felt warranted in saying that, as a rule of averages, 1 of an inch of rainfall would not contribute more than 1 of an inch to the sewers, nor a fall of 4-10ths of an inch more than 1 of an inch. If the sewers were capable of carrying off a volume equal to a rainfall of 1 of an inch per day during the six hours of the maximum flow, there would not be more than twelve days in the year on which the sewers would be overcharged, and then only for short periods during such days. Mr. Bazalgette having gone at great length into this question,

The chairman said the only thing they could do would be to see that the houses were properly drained.

Mr. Bazalgette said the houses built below the level of low-water mark could not be expected to be drained.

Mr. Legg moved that the engineer's report be printed and circulated, and a copy be sent to each claimant for compensation, and when the question was well ventilated it would be found in which quarter the blame lay.

Mr. Freeman thought that, after what had taken place, the engineer ought in future to consider very carefully the subject, with a view to preventing accident arising from a recurrence of such a rainfall.

THE HOME SECRETARY lately created a new police magistracy for the district of Sheerness, Chatham, and Rochester, to which Mr. R. A. Benson was to be appointed. Mr. Benson, however, succeeded to the vacancy on the metropolitan police bench; and Mr. F. Guise, of the Oxford Circuit, becomes police magistrate at Sheerness.

**FRIGHTFUL DEATH.**—Last Saturday night, when the 11.45 p.m. train from Victoria to Ludgate-hill reached the Brixton station, a passenger, who was about to enter, noticed a quantity of blood on one of the second-class carriages. He at once called the attention of the officials at the station to it, and they discovered the dead body of the guard of the train lying on the top of the carriage. His head had been dreadfully injured. On examining the carriages, it was found that the linings of a first-class carriage had been cut with a knife by some person; and it is surmised that the deceased had crawled along the top of the carriages while the train was in motion for the purpose of watching and discovering the guilty person, the act having been frequently repeated. It is supposed that he held his head over the side of the railway-carriage, in order to look through the carriage window. An examination was made of the bridges that cross the line, and marks of blood were found on the bridge which crosses the railway near Stewart's lane station. As the bridge is a very low one, it is thought that deceased was instantly killed by his head being dashed against it. He has left a wife and two children. A reward of £10 has been offered by the company for the discovery of any person found destroying the carriage-linings.

## THE ADMIRALTY AND THE DREADNOUGHT HOSPITAL.

THE debate which lately took place in the House of Commons on the subject of Greenwich Hospital failed to put the public in possession of the real facts of the case, in regard to the negotiations that have been carried on between the Admiralty and the Seaman's Hospital Society, in reference to the appropriation of a part of Greenwich Hospital for the purposes of the Dreadnought. We have already stated that, after the decision of Messrs. Bristowe and Holmes was given in favour of Queen Mary's block, it was represented to the Admiralty that those who had been connected a long time with the Seaman's Hospital, and whose opinions, therefore, were entitled to peculiar credit—derived, as they were, from an intimate and lengthened experience of the special wants of sick seamen—were altogether in favour of Queen Anne's, as best calculated to afford that which the Seaman's Hospital required. As the Admiralty delayed their answer to this communication, the Seaman's Hospital Society suggested that a conference should be held, and the Admiralty declared themselves ready to accede to this, provided the borough of Greenwich were represented and the decision of the conference considered final. The chairman of the Seaman's Hospital Society wrote, on July 19, in reply to the First Lord of the Admiralty, saying that he could not look forward with any hope or confidence to the issue of the proposed conference, more especially if it was to include (as stated in the Admiralty letter) a fair representation of the inhabitants of Greenwich, of whose claims to interference in the matter the society had never heard, and which would inevitably form a new element of difference and opposition; and, further, that the committee of management of the society were unanimously of this opinion, and that the matter should be settled by the Board of Admiralty; and that, if their Lordships' decision be unfavourable, the Seaman's Hospital would feel themselves at full liberty to revert to its original intention and commence building on its own grounds. Yet, in spite of this, Lord H. Lennox stated in the House that the Seaman's Hospital Society, having challenged and agreed to abide by the decision of a conference, had now turned against it. This the Seaman's Society says is wholly erroneous, as the letter of their chairman, dated July 19, and sent to the First Lord of the Admiralty, proves. At the conference, moreover, it was the vote of the member for Greenwich, to whose presence they objected, which passed the resolution expressing an opinion in favour of Queen Mary's quarter for the purpose of a hospital, the newly-appointed Admiralty referee, Mr. Tatum, voting in favour of Queen Anne's quarter, which the society wished to possess. The matter stands thus—the Government will not give the river-front block, and the Dreadnought will not accept Queen Mary's quarter, and therefore Mr. Ayrton's suggestion that the present infirmary should be given up to the Dreadnought authorities has been seriously entertained. It is clear that the Admiralty are much "bothered" by the revelations made by the Committee over which Mr. Ducane presides, and that the present "establishment" must be done away with. In the infirmary at the present time there are about 200 sick inmates, with a very large staff of nurses, about seventy in all, or one nurse to take care of every three men, each sick inmate costing about £110 per annum; and, as the number of the sick is steadily decreasing, in about a year's time, if things go on as at present, each man will cost about £150 a year—a monstrous piece of extravagance. A special committee of the Seaman's Hospital met and agreed that if it were offered then it would be desirable to accept the infirmary to which to remove the Dreadnought (now thoroughly impregnated with poison, we should think), provided the Government would remove the present brewery and the stables that stand between the river and the infirmary, and give up the unoccupied plot of ground facing the river and the roadway to the pier, for under these circumstances the hospital would possess a river frontage, and it would be easy to convey the sick without any trouble or discomfort at once to it from the boats. The cost of the requisite alterations would be about £10,000, and spacious wards could easily be made and ample accommodation provided for 300 men. This would be much cheaper than the fitting up of Queen Mary's quarter, which would cost about £15,000, or Queen Anne's, £12,000. The Dreadnought authorities would feel disposed to take charge of the sick seamen at present in the infirmary—at least the cases for a hospital—at a certain payment per case, and save the Government heavy expenses. This arrangement would be an economical one, it is argued, both for the Government and the Seaman's Hospital Society. If the latter were to build they would do so at great sacrifice. It is true they have a goodly sum in hand—over £100,000—but they cannot get at present an income sufficient to pay their expenses year by year, and half only of the latter is met by their dividends. There seems to be no objection to giving up the infirmary and the plot of ground between it and the river to the Seaman's Hospital Society. Mr. Childers proposed to make a medical school for the Army and Navy services. The *Lancet* points out that Netley admirably supplies all that is requisite in regard to the Army, but that it would be an admirable scheme to found a "Naval Netley" in conjunction with the Dreadnought Hospital.—*Standard*.

It is highly probable that the report of the Select Committee now sitting on the affairs of Greenwich Hospital will result in the entire emptying of that immense pile of buildings. If that be the case, there could be no possible objection to an occupation of the infirmary by the Seamen's Hospital Society. This building is distinct from the hospital proper, and its use by the society would in no way interfere with any plans that the Government may form for the utilisation of the latter. After all the contention that has taken place, it would be a graceful act on the part of the Admiralty and a liberal redemption of Lord Derby's promise to offer the loan of the infirmary to the Dreadnought authorities.—*Fall Mall Gazette*.

**BROADHEAD AND CROOKES.**—An extraordinary meeting of the Saw-grinders' Society at Sheffield was held on Tuesday evening, the result of which goes far towards justifying all the hard and harsh things said in newspapers and magazines respecting the revelations obtained by the Royal Commissioners at Sheffield. It was called to consider a proposal to expel from the union Broadhead and Crookes, whose confessions at the recent inquiry have made their names infamous. The meeting, which was largely attended, passed a resolution declining "to make victims" of Broadhead or anyone else, pronouncing the outrages as but the "effect of a cause," and adding, "We decline to disgrace ourselves as cowards by deserting the men who have taken upon themselves the task of risking their lives and their liberties for what they believed to be the good of the institution."

**EFFECTS OF A STRIKE.**—Upwards of 600 men, formerly engine-drivers and firemen on the North-Eastern Railway—the victims of the memorable strike on the 10th of April last—are now virtually starving. Of the 1500 men who turned out on that day some few have resumed work on the line, many more have found employment in various ways, but under conditions much worse than those which led to the strike, and upwards of 600 men remain entirely unemployed. The company are not likely to discharge the men who succeeded them, and therefore the chance of reinstating the turn-outs is very remote. The support the men have received has been very inadequate, although the engine-drivers and firemen in the "union" have contributed about £5000 for their relief. The contributions are rapidly diminishing, and the result is that a fund has been started to enable the 600 victims of the imprudent strike to emigrate to the United States or British North America. The advantages of such a proceeding are held out in tempting colours to the victims of the late strike.

**THE CHOLERA IN SICILY.**—The most distressing news continues to be received in Malta of the spread of cholera in Sicily. The week ending Aug. 1 shows a total of 6612 cases, and 3521 deaths, against 5556 cases and 3333 deaths of the week before. In Palermo and its suburbs the return of last week was 30 cases and 15 deaths per diem. The return for twenty-four hours in that district from Aug. 1 to Aug. 2 is now 465 cases and 320 deaths. Messina is still free, and only a few cases are reported at Syracuse. The disease appears to be on the decline at Catania. In the latter town the dead were left to putrefy in the houses, which had to be broken into by the troops and gendarmes, for the removal of the festering corpses. A letter from Messina, received at Malta on Tuesday week, says:—"The clerical do their best to induce the lower classes to believe, and with some degree of success, that cholera is manufactured by the Government, and is spread by the carabinieri and other agents with the view of diminishing the population, who were to have revolted against the present rule. In Catania, where the pestilence is committing the greatest ravages, of the persons attacked very few recover, as the belief is general that the disease is propagated by the doctors; and the dying even refuse the sacrament, suspecting that even the sacred wafer may be impregnated with cholera. Here at Messina the public health is excellent, in spite of the excessive heat which has prevailed for the last week."



## LAW AND CRIME.

It has long been known, and frequently commented upon by the press, that a thieves' literature has been allowed to exist. It manifests itself in the form of penny numbers sold by small stationers. It commends itself to boys especially by means of front-page illustrations, which usually represent a young fellow in the costume of the last century extorting compliance with some demand by presentation of a pistol to an elderly person. From time to time this evil has borne its fruit for thirty years past. Urchins beg, borrow, save, or steal the money wherewith to buy cheap pistols. They use them after the manner taught by this villainous literature, and at once become felons. The transition to a convict state is easy enough. We have laws against immoral books, if indecent. Can we have none to prohibit the publication of works tending to any other kind of demoralisation? Is an impunity to be granted to the advocacy of theft, robbery, or murder, rather than to that of mere licentiousness? Dick Turpin, Claude Duval, Jack Sheppard, the shame and disgrace of their respective ages, are, among errand boys, the heroes and the martyrs of our own. Bulwer and Ainsworth started this mischief. Bulwer, by his "Paul Clifford"—a work crammed full of ludicrous anachronisms and impossibilities—and Ainsworth by his "Rookwood," of which, by-the-way, it is currently reported that he did not write the only good part—the description of Turpin's ride to York—which was penned by Mr. Mahoney (alias Father Prout). Moreover, Turpin did not ride to York in a day: the feat was performed by another highwayman. Turpin was a cold-blooded villain, against whom the probabilities are strong that he shot his comrade, Tom King, on his capture, to get rid of a possible King's-evidence. Jack Sheppard was a vulgar sort, agile, and clever at picking and breaking locks when they were clumsily made, as in his day they were. His escapes were, nevertheless, for the most part effected with the connivance and the bribery of his gaolers. Claude Duval was a wretched fiddling French barber, who, having occasion to fly his native country, set up as a brigand in England, and was forthwith caught and deservedly hanged. The only fellow with brains among the thieves was Jonathan Wild, who used a thief as

in the throat, might well be feeble, and hence be mistaken, at some distance, for a woman's. A policeman also heard it, as "a lusty cry" as of a person in great distress, and "fainted away," as he advanced. He was sure it was a female voice. The surgeon who examined the deceased said that, "unless the deceased was in a state bordering upon frenzy, she could not have inflicted the wounds visible upon her throat." He might just as well have kept silence or emigrated as put such a worthless piece of evidence upon record, since nobody out of a "state bordering upon frenzy" would be likely to commit a murder and a half: one of the crimes, complete or incomplete, being upon the criminal's own person. We repeat, there might have been no mystery about this matter. Here is a magistrate investigating at a police court a mystery which has been allowed to grow for want of a sudden perquisition upon the spot, when no half-dozen reasonable practical men could have failed to discover the truth. It is strongly in favour of the lighterman, who stands accused of murder, that from first to last he has always given the same consistent account of the matter—namely, that the woman attacked him in his sleep; that he struggled with her and repelled her, and that he afterwards saw her "sawing her own throat." The popular feeling of Limehouse is evidently adverse to the prisoner, but we confess to strong doubts as to his guilt.

## HOME CIRCUIT.—CROYDON.

CRAGER V. LEVY.—The plaintiff in this action was a teacher of music at the east end of the town, and he sued the defendant, the celebrated player on the cornet-piston, for damages for a breach of contract he had made with him to play at a concert given by the plaintiff at the Beaumont Institution, Mile-end.

Mr. Talfourd Slater appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Shaw for the defendant.

The case for the plaintiff was that he had got up a concert at the above institution, which was to take place on May 27; and on the 17th of that month he wrote to the defendant to play at his concert, offering him 25s. if he would play one solo on his instrument. The defendant declined to make this arrangement, but said that he would play twice during the evening for 35s.; and this proposition was accepted by the plaintiff, and bills were issued by him announcing the fact that the defendant would be one of the artists at the concert, which, according to the case for the plaintiff, created the greatest excitement; and he anticipated a great profit from the concert. The defendant, however, almost immediately after the engagement had been made, wrote to the plaintiff to inform him that he had got an engagement to play at Bristol, by which he should make £120, and that it would, therefore, be impossible for him to play at the concert on the day fixed. He, however, offered to play on the 25th or any other night; and, in an interview which subsequently took place between him and the plaintiff, the defendant expressed his regret at disappointing him, and offered to play for nothing on some subsequent occasion; but he said that he could not break the country engagement, and that it would be 250 guineas out of his pocket if he did so. The plaintiff said it was impossible for him to change the day, and another gentleman, named Reynolds, was engaged to play the cornet-piston instead of the defendant; but the public did not appreciate the new arrangement, and the consequence was that the concert, instead of yielding a profit, turned out a loss to the plaintiff of something like £50. This result, it was alleged on the part of the plaintiff, arose from the defendant not having performed the agreement he had entered into, and the present action was brought to recover damages for this breach of the contract.

Mr. Shaw, on the part of Mr. Levy, admitted that he had made the agreement to play at this concert, and that he had broken it, and that the plaintiff was consequently entitled to some damages; but he urged that a very small amount would meet the justice of the case, and that the matter ought to have been disposed of in the White-chapel County Court instead of being brought down to the Croydon Assizes.

The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff—damages £40.

## POLICE.

HE AND HIS MONEY SOON PARTED.—Luigi Derocchi, a Frenchman, forty years of age, described as a commercial traveller, residing at 42, Tennyson-street, York-road, Lambeth, was brought before Mr. Ellison, charged with being concerned with another not yet apprehended, with stealing ten Napoleons, the property of Christobol Orens, a Spaniard.

The prosecutor, residing at 15, Mount-street, White-chapel, deposed that, on the morning of the 12th inst., he was proceeding along Fenchurch-street when the prisoner accosted him, and asked whether he knew the Bank of England. He afterwards inquired whether he knew of a park where they could take a walk together, and if he would object to show him a little of London, as he was a stranger to this country. After walking a short time they went into a public-house and were taking some refreshment when a man entered, and complained that he had lost some money in a roll of paper. Induced by the prisoner, he lent the man ten gold Napoleons, which the prisoner promised to repay. They suddenly vanished, one out of one door and the other by another.

When apprehended, the prisoner said that the prosecutor had lost the Napoleons in play.

Mr. Ellison remanded the prisoner for a week.

AN UNTENABLE CHARGE.—William Mahoney, a compositor, was charged with manslaughter.

William Williams stated that he was in the Clarence public-house, in Herbert's-passage, on Monday, with the prisoner and a man named Edward Evans. The latter had been all day about the neighbourhood drinking, and was lying asleep upon a bench in a corner of the bar. The prisoner woke him up, saying, "Why, Ted, I thought you was dead." They had a pot of beer together, for which the prisoner paid. Evans then, for no conceivable reason, began to abuse the prisoner, calling him a "monkey," and saying he could fight ten such as he. The prisoner bore it all with great humour for some time, saying he did not want to fight, and endeavouring to conciliate Evans, who, however, persisted in taunting and provoking him, till at last he went out on the embankment to fight Evans, when the prisoner hardly struck him, but rather tried to keep him off and ward his blows. Evans rushed at him, and stooping, seized his legs and tried to throw him. At last the prisoner knocked him down and went away. Evans still lay on the embankment, and when some of the bystanders picked him up and carried him to the station-house they found that he was dead.

The prisoner was remanded on his own recognisances.

THE BRIGANDS OF LONDON.—James M'Donald and Edward Jones were brought before Mr. Partridge for final examination, charged with being concerned with others not in custody in assaulting James Mills, in Blackman-street, Borough, and stealing from him a gold watch and Albert chain.

The prosecutor resides in High-street, Borough, and about half-past twelve on the morning of Tuesday he was seeing Dodson's court, Blackman-street, and in passing Dodson's court, and two other young fellows rushed out upon him and nearly knocked him down. The prisoner M'Donald gave him a severe blow on the chest, and snatched his watch and chain from him and ran up the court with his companion. Witness pursued them, and in the struggle they fell. He then distinctly saw his companions came up at that time, and the watch and chain were passed to one of them. The prisoner then struck him and kicked him violently to get away, but he retained hold of him until a constable came up, when he was secured. On his way to the station-

house the prisoner turned round upon him, and, making use of a frightful oath, struck him on the mouth, knocking two of his teeth out. Later in the same day he was Jones in custody, and identified him as one of the ruffians.

Ann Keeley said she had been out at a party with last witness, who consented to see her home. As they were passing Dodson's court, Blackman-street, the prisoner and two others suddenly rushed out and nearly knocked her down. She then saw the prisoner M'Donald snatch Mr. Mills' watch and chain, and they all ran up the court again, pursued by Mr. Mills. Witness went after a constable, and, meeting with one, they returned to the spot, and saw the prosecutor and M'Donald struggling on the ground. A woman opened a window during the struggle, and called out, "There's many a murder and robbery taken place in this court."

William Gosling, 45 M., said that a little before one o'clock on the morning of Tuesday, the 6th, he was on duty in Blackman-street, when last witness came up to him and called him to Dodson's court. He there saw the prisoner struggling with M'Donald, who, he said, had robbed him of his watch and chain. Witness seized hold of him and took him into custody. On the way to the station-house M'Donald turned round on the prosecutor and struck him on the mouth. He was extremely violent, and it was with great difficulty that he got him to the station-house.

John Marsh, 92 M., a detective officer, said that he was attending to other business in the police court on Tuesday morning, the 6th inst., when the prisoner Jones was pointed out to him in the body of the court as one of the prosecutor's assailants. He accordingly took him into custody, and last witness identified him.

The prisoners, who denied all knowledge of the robbery, were committed for trial.

A RAILWAY TRAIN TURNED INTO A MAN-TRAP.—A branch in the Madras Presidency runs through a wild region, the inhabitants of which are unsophisticated savages, addicted to thievery. The first day the line was opened a number of these Arcadians conspired to intercept the train, and have a glorious loot. To accomplish their object they placed some trunks of trees across the rails; but the engine-driver, keeping a very sharp lookout, as it happened to be his first trip on the line in question, descried the trunks while yet they were at a considerable distance from him. The brakes were then put on, and when the locomotive had approached within a couple of feet of the trunks it was brought to a standstill. Then, instantaneously, like Roderick Dhu's clansmen starting from the heather, natives, previously invisible, swarmed up on all sides, and, crowding into the carriages, began to pillage and plunder everything they could lay their hands upon. While they were thus agreeably engaged, the guard gave the signal to the driver, who at once reversed his engine and put it to the top of its speed. The reader may judge of the consternation of the robbers when they found themselves whirled backwards at a pace which rendered escape from the carriages wholly impossible. The few who attempted it were killed on the spot. Thus were our Arcadians nicely caught, and as they were transferred from this novel man-trap to the goal, they were no doubt convinced that the "fire-brandy" can move progressively and retrogressively with equal facility.—*Central India Times*, June 22.

THE PEOPLE WHO CANNOT WRITE.—A Parliamentary paper brings down to 1865 the return of English men and women who, on marrying, have to make their mark on the marriage register instead of signing their names. More than a third of the Welshmen who married in that year had to make their mark; very nearly a third of the men of Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, and Norfolk were put to the same shift; more than a third of the men of Suffolk, 35 per cent of the men of Bedfordshire, 38 per cent of the men of Staffordshire, and 40 per cent of the men of Monmouthshire. In all Lancashire one man in every four who married had to make his mark. Still the number of the ignorant constantly lessens. In 1845 66.8 per cent of the men who married in England, and 50.4 per cent of the women, were able to write their names on the marriage register; 1855, 70.5 per cent of the men and 58.8 per cent of the women; in 1865, 77.5 per cent of the men and 68.8 per cent of the women—more than three fourths of the men and more than two thirds of the women. In these twenty years the women have been improving faster than the men. Foremost amongst the ignorant districts, so far as concerns women, stands South Wales, with more than half its women unable to write their names, and in North Wales, Monmouthshire, Staffordshire, and Lancashire, the number exceeds 46 in the 100. In Bedfordshire, where the children have been accustomed to work so early at straw plaiting, two women in every five who married in 1865 had to make their mark. These are people able to marry, and probably included in a smaller proportion of the very lowest, the "residuum." It is remarkable that in the eastern counties, and in many counties in the southern half of England, more women sign the marriage register than men. As in 1864, so in 1865, Westmorland had the largest proportion of its men able to write, nine in every ten; and Sussex the largest proportion of its women, more than eight in every ten.

## MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

THERE has been more activity in the Market for Home Securities during the past week, and prices have, in most instances, advanced. The present quotations are as follow:—Consols, for Delivery, 94½; and 94½ for the 10th of September; Reduced to Three per Cent, 94½; Bank Stock, 251 to 255; Exchange Bills, 25 to 25½.

The accumulation of money still continues, and large shipments of gold are reported on their way to this country, upwards of £75,000 being advised from Melbourne alone. The gold operations at the Bank have been on an extensive scale; the amount sent since the date of last return being £111,000.

Money is freely offered on the Stock Exchange, for short periods, on Government securities, at 1 per cent.

The current quotations for mercantile paper, having various periods to run, are as follow:—

Thirty to Sixty Days' Bills .. .. 1½ per cent.  
Three Months' ditto .. .. 1½ " "  
Four to Six Months' .. .. 2 " "

The allowance for money on deposit at the joint-stock banks and discount houses is 1 per cent if "at call," or 1½ per cent if with seven or fourteen days' notice.

Indian Securities have ruled steadily, at enhanced values. We quote India Stock, 222; India Five per Cent, 113 to 114; 4½ per Cent, 102 to 103; and 10½ to 108; India Bonds, 65s. to 70s. per cent.

Foreign Bonds have been more active, and prices have, in many instances, advanced. Argentina, 70 to 72; Brazilian, 95 to 100; Buenos Ayres, 75 to 80; Chilean, 100 to 102; Danish (1855), 86 to 88; Danish, 80 to 82; Ditto (1867), 60 to 62; Ecuador, 12 to 13; Egyptian, 84 to 86; Ditto (Second Issue), 83 to 85; Ditto (Debt), 82 to 83; Greek, 13 to 14; Ditto, Coupons, 5 to 6; Italian, 1865, 70 to 72; Ditto, Maremma Railway, 45 to 50; Mexican, 14 to 14½ ex div.; New Granada, 12 to 13; Peruvian, 1865, 104 to 107; Portuguese, 1863, 40s. to 40½; Russian, 1872, 1865, 104 to 107; Ditto Anglo-Dutch, 86 to 87; Sardinian, 70 to 72; Spanish, 34 to 35; Ditto Deferred, 31½ to 32; Ditto Passive, 21 to 21½; Ditto Certificate, 16 to 16½; Turkish, 1864, 78 to 80; Ditto, 1868, 50 to 52; Ditto, 1862, 57 to 58; Ditto, 1863, 45 to 50; Ditto Four per Cent, 101 to 102 ex div.; Italian, 1861, 48 to 49; Ditto Four per Cent, 102 to 103 ex div.; Ditto, 1864, 70 to 72; Ditto, 1865, 72½ to 73; Ditto, 1868, 87 to 89; Ditto, 1874, 69 to 71; Massachusetts, 85 to 90; Virginian Six per Cent, 34 to 35.

Colonial Government Securities have ruled steadily.—Canada Six per Cent, 99½ ex div.; Ditto Five per Cent, 83½; New Zealand Five per Cent, 83½; Ditto, 1861, 81½; March and September, per Cent, 83½; Ditto, June and December, 1864; Nova Scotia Six per Cent, 59; Queensland Six per Cent, 1891, 96½; Victoria Six per Cent, April and October, 111.

Joint-stock Bank Shares have been in limited demand, at firm prices:—Chartered, 50; Ditto, New, 30; London and Westminster, 50; Union of Australia, 47½.

The dealings in the Miscellaneous Share Market have been much restricted, yet prices have been supported:—Hudson's Bay, 15; Italian 192; Credit Foncier of England, 21; Ocean Marine Insurance, 192; Insurance, 21; Oriental Steam, 49½; Ditto, 1867, 21; Thames and Mersey Marine Insurance, 53; Viceroys of Egypt's Mortgage, 64½.

The Railway Share Market has assumed a firmer tone, owing to the passing of the Great Eastern Railway Bill and the successful issue of the London and Brighton Company's stock. The quotations show a decided improvement on most of the principal lines.

## METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

MARK-LANE.—The wheat trade has been greatly wanting in activity, and both English and foreign samples have been much neglected, at a nominal decline of 2s. per quarter upon late rates. Barley has ruled firm, and oats have been in fair request, but malt has been dull. Beans, as well as peas, have commanded their

former value, with a fair demand. Flour has ruled heavy, on former terms. Wheat, 62s. to 77s.; some new Talavera has realised 72s. to 75s. per quarter; barley, 32s. to 48s.; malt, 51s. to 70s.; oats, 21s. to 31s.; rye, 34s. to 38s.; beans, 38s. to 48s.; peas, 38s. to 44s. per quarter; and flour, 45s. to 68s. per 280 lb.

QUANTITIES OF GRAIN SOLD LAST WEEK.—Wheat, 25,586; barley, 537; and oats, 15,975.

AVERAGES OF GRAIN LAST WEEK.—Wheat, 68s. 2d.; barley 35s. 11d.; and oats, 28s. 9d. per qr.

SEEDS.—Lined and rapeseed have moved off slowly. Cloverseed has been in improved request; whilst trefoils have changed hands readily, at from 19s. to 22s. 6d. per cwt.

CATTLE.—The supply of both beasts and sheep has been only moderate. Nevertheless, the demand for them has ruled heavy, and a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. has taken place in prices. Lamb has declined 4d. per 8 lb., and the value of pigs has had a drooping tendency. Calves have been in moderate request, on former terms. NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.—The supplies of meat have been good, and the trade has ruled heavy at from 3s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. for beef; 3s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. for mutton; 4s. to 4d. 6d. for lamb; 4s. to 4d. 6d. for veal; and 3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d. per 8 lb. for pork.

COLONIAL PRODUCE.—The publications of India tea have progressed slowly, at dropping prices. The market for sugar also has been wanting in activity. Jamaica has realised 25s. to 32s. 6d.; Barbados, 30s. to 34s.; St. Lucia, 29s. to 30s. per cwt. In coffee the transactions have been on a limited scale. Low and good adding plantation Ceylon, 75s. 6d. to 86s. 6d.; Negilberry, 72s. to 77s.; fine ordinary Mysore, 65s. 6d. per cwt.

TALLOW.—Tallow has ruled quiet, at 45s. per cwt. for old P.Y.C. and 46s. for new.

OILS.—Lined oil has remained without variation, at £39. Rape oil, in bulk, at £40 10s. for English refined.

ROPES.—The market for ropes is more favourable. The trade for all kinds is steady, at full currencies. Prices range from £3 to £14 per cwt., according to quality.

POTATOES.—The supplies are less extensive, and the demand is good, at from 70s. to 110s. per ton for English.

WOOL.—The sales of colonial wool have been commenced. At the bidings have been very inactive. SEBKANT, Clerkenwell, machine, 17s.; Wylam, 16s. 6d.; Haswell, 21s.; Kellie, 19s.; Tees, 20s. 6d. per ton.

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, AUG. 9.

BANKRUPTS.—W. S. APPELBY, Kelsion, farmer.—W. BASEBIE, Forest-hill, printer.—J. H. BAXLY, Great Yarmouth, chemist.—W. BOOTH, St. John's-wood, house agent.—W. FORD, New Woodworth, tailor.—G. CALDER, Easton-road, railway contractor.—CLAYDON, Finsbury, attorney-at-law.—J. COLLINS, Southwark, builder.—T. R. COMYN, Hackney, secretary to a public company.—J. DEHN, Commercial-road, boot and shoe maker.—H. FARMAN, Greenwich, greengrocer.—C. T. FAULKNER, Southampton, grocer.—W. GERRY, Bournemouth, master carter.—G. GILLESPIE, Bromley, Chelsea, greengrocer.—Bethnal-green, fish salesman.—W. H. GOLDING, Grays, Essex.—J. GOSLING, New North-road, corndealer.—S. N. HORTON, King's-cross, potato merchant.—A. KLAPPER, Whitechapel, baker.—S. MALSON, Holborn, jeweller.—J. MONTAGUE, Hallow.—N. G. NEWELL, Lewisham-road, joiner.—W. H. PEARCE, Whitechapel, House, Kenosia Town, oilman.—NEWLAND, jun. Colham, builder.—J. NUTTALL, Upper Kennington-lane, cotton-waste dealer.—A. NYE, Camberwell, clerk.—R. PARKER, Battersea Park, dealer.—M. A. PASSEFORD, Regent-street, hairdresser.—W. BORTH, Mile-end-road, dealer in all kinds of goods.—J. SCOTT, Islington, street, commission agent.—SEBKANT, Clerkenwell, machine, 17s.; Wylam, 16s. 6d.; Haswell, 21s.; Kellie, 19s.; Tees, 20s. 6d. per ton.

TUESDAY, AUG. 13.

BANKRUPTS.—M. ARCHARD, Minorca, carman.—G. STEEL, sen., Bow.—E. WIGLEY, Finsbury, lodging-house keeper.—E. B. BUCKLEY, Epsom, W. DAWSON, Tottenham, beer-retailer.—J. H. HANDS, Wandsworth, general dealer.—J. LAN, Streatham, Lambeth, dealer in ham and beef.—J. M. KLENCK, Hoxton.—J. H. HEFES, Drury-lane, brushmaker.—J. SOUTER, jun., Camberwell, carrier.—J. J. BROWN, Poplar, carman.—E. SAMSON, Bethnal-green, cabinetmaker.—B. H. HICKSON, Ford, baker.—W. HILLARS, Bow, chemist.—G. H. HILLARS, Bow, dealer in wine.—W. F. SHAND, Greenwich, licensed victualler.—G. J. WATSON, Holloway-road, boot and shoe manufacturer.—J. HOLMES, Brixton, commission agent.—J. KEMPTON, Cambridge-street, Golden-square, bootmaker.—S. TAYLOR, Seething-lane, ironmonger.—G. H. HILLARS, Tottenham, beer-retailer.—NEALE, Clapham-road, clerk.—J. BAUER, St. George's East, baker.—A. BRINTON, Bewdley.—J. WHEELER, Birmingham, butcher.—E. MORGAN, Newport, Monmouthshire, licensed victualler.—W. GILPIN, Tavistock, saddler.—J. MINTOSH and J. E. JONES, Liverpool, grocers.—J. DUNN, Liverpool, machine maker.—W. MOSS, Widdow, T. LAVERICK, sunnier and draper.—R. HAND, A-toot, beereller.—W. MADDES, Chorlton-on-Medlock.—J. H. HALEY, Huddersfield, beereller.—C. SHOLEFIELD, Sedgfield, T. LAVERICK, Sunderland, draper.—M. ANTLIS, Birmingham, blacksmith.—S. HOLLOWAY, Birmingham, boot manufacturer.—T. HILLARS, Birmingham, ironmonger.—W. HILLARS, Birmingham, coaldealer.—B. HULKS, Huddersfield, fishdealer.—B. W. RILEY, Huddersfield, commission agent.—J. H. HULKS, North Muskharn, bootmaker.—W. TINKLER, jun., Newark-on-Trent.—J. CULPAN, Rippon, cotton-spinner.—A. SHELTON, Tipton, bricklayer.—W. CALY, sen., Tipton, bricklayer.—J. J. BROWN, Poplar, carman.—J. H. HEFES, Drury-lane, brushmaker.—J. SOUTER, jun., Camberwell, carrier.—J. J. BROWN, Poplar, carman.—E. SAMSON, Bethnal-green, cabinetmaker.—B. H. HICKSON, Ford, baker.—W. HILLARS, Bow, chemist.—G. H. HILLARS, Bow, dealer in wine.—W. F. 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LAVERICK, sunnier and draper.—R. HAND, A-toot, beereller.—W. MADDES, Chorlton-on-Medlock.—J. H. HALEY, Huddersfield, beereller.—C. SHOLEFIELD, Sedgfield, T. LAVERICK, Sunderland, draper.—M. ANTLIS, Birmingham, blacksmith.—S. HOLLOWAY, Birmingham, boot manufacturer.—T. HILLARS, Birmingham, ironmonger.—W. HILLARS, Birmingham, coaldealer.—B. HULKS, Huddersfield, fishdealer.—B. W. RILEY, Huddersfield, commission agent.—J. H. HULKS, North Muskharn, bootmaker.—W. TINKLER, jun., Newark-on-Trent.—J. CULPAN, Rippon, cotton-spinner.—A. SHELTON, Tipton, bricklayer.—W. CALY, sen., Tipton, bricklayer.—J. J. BROWN, Poplar, carman.—J. H. HEFES, Drury-lane, brushmaker.—J. SOUTER, jun., Camberwell, carrier.—J. J. BROWN, Poplar, carman.—E. SAMSON, Bethnal-green, cabinetmaker.—B. H. HICKSON, Ford, baker.—W. HILLARS, Bow, chemist.—G. H. HILLARS, Bow, dealer in wine.—W. F. SHAND, Greenwich, licensed victualler.—G. J. WATSON, Holloway-road, boot and shoe manufacturer.—J. 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**BROWN and POLSON'S**  
CORN FLOUR,  
The best quality is supplied by most respectable Grocers. To obtain extra profit by the sale, counterfeit cheap kinds are sometimes substituted instead of Brown and Polson's.

**BROWN and POLSON'S**  
CORN FLOUR,  
for Children's Diet.

**BROWN and POLSON'S**  
CORN FLOUR,  
for all the uses,  
to which the best Arrowroot  
is applicable.

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CORN FLOUR,  
boiled with Milk,  
for Breakfast.

**BROWN and POLSON'S**  
CORN FLOUR,  
boiled with Milk,  
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CORN FLOUR,  
to thicken  
Soups.

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to thicken  
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**BROWN and POLSON'S**  
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to thicken  
Beef-tea.

**BROWN and POLSON'S**  
CORN FLOUR,  
for Custards.

**BROWN and POLSON'S**  
CORN FLOUR,  
for Blancmange.

**BROWN and POLSON'S**  
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for use with  
Stewed Fruit.

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Packets, 2d.

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Packets, 4d.

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Tins, 1s.

**BROWN and POLSON'S**  
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Tins, 1s. 6d.

**BROWN and POLSON'S**  
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Tins, 1s. 6d.

**TWO THOUSAND ODD DRESS**  
LENGTHS of light and medium coloured rich SILKS are  
now clearing out at reduced prices, from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.  
The best Silk Foulards, beautifully printed in rich Chéné  
patterns, are at reduced prices, from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d.  
PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 105, Oxford-street.

**RICH FANCY SILKS,**  
from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d., worth 4s.  
Patterns free.—PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 105, Oxford-street.

**WATERPROOF MANTLES,**  
in Shrewsbury Waterproof Tweeds, all shades of Grey  
and Brown, and various new mixtures, prepared for this season.  
A size, circular, with hood, from 21s. 6d., more than 50 in. long.  
B 2s. 6d., " 54 " "  
C 2s. 6d., " 58 " "  
The Inverness, with cape, from 23s. 6d., " "  
The Seacoast, hood and sleeves, 2s. 6d., " "  
All warranted waterproof.  
PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 105, Oxford-street.  
The Illustrated Manual of Fashions post-free on application.

**FOR EARLY AUTUMN OR TRAVELLING DRESSES.**  
"YEDDO" WOOL POPLIN.  
A Grand Collection of Colours in this very Beautiful Fabric.  
2s. 6d. the Extra Full Dress. All New Shades.  
Patterns free.—PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 105, Oxford-street.

**NEW FRENCH MUGLINS TO BE**  
**SOLD CURIOUSLY CHEAP.**  
Several Thousand Pieces, of most elegant Designs and  
great variety of Colour, 7s. 9d. to 10s. 6d. the Extra Full Dress.  
Patterns free.—PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 105, Oxford-street, W.

**ALL OUR SUMMER DRESSES ARE NOW**  
**SELLING AT REDUCED PRICES.**  
The Registered Cretonne Cloth, Nankin ditto,  
and a great variety of other new Fabrics,  
8s. 9d. to 15s. 6d., formerly 15s. 6d. to 25s.  
Patterns free.—PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 105, Oxford-street, W.

**FAMILY MOURNING,**  
made up and trimmed in the most correct taste, may be ob-  
tained at the most reasonable prices.  
At PETER ROBINSON'S.  
Goods are sent free of charge, for selection, to all parts of  
England, with dressmaker, if desired, upon receipt of letter, order,  
or telegram; and Patterns are sent, with Book of Illustrations, to  
all parts of the world.

The Court and General Mourning Warehouse,  
256 to 262, Regent-street, London.  
The largest and most economical Mourning Warehouse in Europe.  
PETER ROBINSON'S.

As a Guarantee for Purity the Maker's Name is woven in the  
Fabric.

**SUPERIOR BLACK SILKS,**  
by Tappeler, Bonnet, and other celebrated Makers.  
PETER ROBINSON would invite the especial attention of  
purchasers to the superior make and quality of his  
BLACK SILKS,  
and the very reasonable prices at which they are sold. He can now  
supply good useful Black Silks from 4s. 70s. the Full Dress,  
and superior and most enduring qualities from 3s. to 10s.  
Patterns free.—Address Peter Robinson, 256, Regent-street.

**IMPORTANT TO LADIES.—CHAS. AMOTT**  
and CO., St. Paul's, are now Selling 1700 RICH SILK  
JACKETS (Paris models), all at 1s. 6d. each, originally 3s. 6d.  
These beautiful Jackets are made from the richest silk, and will  
be found wonderfully cheap. Sample Jacket on receipt of stamps.  
Chas. Amott and Company, 61 and 62, St. Paul's, London.

**JAPANESE SILKS EXTRAORDINARY.**  
CHAS. AMOTT and CO., will sell, Next Week,  
3000 Rich Japanese Silk Dresses,  
originally 1s. 6d. each, for 1s. 11d.  
Patterns free.—61 and 62, St. Paul's, London.

**TO LADIES LEAVING TOWN.**  
EXTRAORDINARY BARGAINS.  
7s. 11d. 12 yards; originally 15s. 6d.  
Rich Belgian Foulards, originally 12s. 6d., for 4s. 9d. 12 yards.  
300 Boiled Dresses, originally 1 guinea, for 10s. 6d. 12 yards.  
Beautiful designs and first-rate quality,  
will be sold at 8s. 11d. 12 yards.  
A lot of Swiss Jaconets, originally 15s. 6d.,  
for 6s. 11d.  
500 Rich Taffeta Burnous Cloaks,  
during the season 1 guinea,  
may now be had for 6s. 11d.  
A sample for order on receipt of stamps.  
CHAS. AMOTT and CO.,  
61 and 62, St. Paul's, London.

**MOURNING FOR FAMILIES.—Messrs.**  
JAY, anxious to remove an impression which they find has  
gained undue circulation, that none but the richest materials in  
made-up Skirts, Mantles, and Millinery are sold at their Establishment,  
deem it a duty to themselves and to the public to assure all  
families who have not yet dealt at Jay's Mourning Warehouse,  
that they sell an extensive and complete stock of rich and cheap  
the small sum of £1 15s. Good Wearing Materials are cut from the  
piece, and at a more than equivalent for the price, which is from  
1s. 6d. per yard upwards.—JAY's, the London General Mourning Ware-  
house, 247, 249, and 251, Regent-street.

**VISITORS TO LONDON**  
are invited to inspect the  
SHOW ROOMS  
of  
JAMES SPENCE and CO.,  
76, 77, and 78, St. Paul's-churchyard,  
which are replete with all the latest novelties in  
Silks, Mantles, Shawls, Fancy Dresses, Drapery, Ribbons, Hosiery,  
Gloves, Lace, Haberdashery, &c.  
Family and Complimentary Mourning.  
James Spence and Co.,  
Wholesale and Retail Silkmercers, Drapers, &c.,  
76, 77, and 78, St. Paul's-churchyard, London, E.C.

**CHEAP BLACK and COLOURED SILKS.**  
The clearance of a Manufacturer's Stock will be offered for  
the remainder of the season unusually cheap.  
A Lot of RICH FRENCH REPS, all wool, 1s. 8d. a yard, usual  
price 2s. 6d. FRENCH MERINOES commencing at 1s. 6d. Owing  
to a recent fall in the price of cotton, all kinds of PLAIN  
DRAPEY, LONGCLOTHS, CAMBRICS, &c., may, in con-  
sequence, be purchased to a great advantage.  
Patterns and Lists of Underclothing post-free.  
HENRY GLAYE, 534 to 537, New Oxford-street, W.C.

**CHEAP FANCY DRESSES.**  
Greatly Reduced Prices. CLOSE OF THE SEASON.  
One of the largest Stocks in London will be offered for the re-  
mainder of the season at extraordinary low prices. Upwards of  
20,000 yards of useful new materials, in Camlets, Mohairs, Fou-  
lards, Muslins, Lenox, &c., will be sold at 4s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 6s. 6d.  
A yard. Many articles are very suitable for travelling or sea-  
side wear. Patterns post-free.  
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